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THE TIMES

Cancer: Should the patient be told the truth? Page 16

Mr Callaghan wins second ballot by eight votes but Mr Foot will fight on

Voting in the second ballot for the Labour Party leadership resulted last night in victory for Mr Callaghan over Mr Foot by 141 votes to 133, and the elimination of Mr Healey who got 38 votes. Figures in the third ballot, to be announced on Monday, are expected to show Mr Callaghan comfortably ahead of the necessary minimum of votes.

Final attempt to woo Mr Healey's backers

By David Wood, Political Editor

Mr Callaghan, Foreign Secretary, went into the lead when the voting in the second ballot for the leadership of the Parliamentary Labour Party and the succession to Mr Wilson, the retiring Prime Minister, was announced at the Palace of Westminster last night.

With 141 votes out of 312 ballot papers returned, he was eight votes ahead of Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment. Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, took 38 votes and was eliminated.

The figures in the third ballot, which will be announced next Monday evening at a meeting of the PLP, are expected to show Mr Callaghan comfortably ahead with the necessary minimum of 157 or more votes, assuming that the same number are received next time.

Any expectation that Mr Foot and his campaign team would agree on withdrawal from the contest last night was quickly disappointed. Mr John Silkin, his campaign manager, said: "The ballot remains absolutely wide open . . . The question is what happens to the 38 Healey votes. They are really Healey votes and not block votes at all. There is very little similarity between them.

"There are a number of loyal friends in the Treasury team, and once you have taken those out the rest are from all sections of the party. Most of them are individual, sturdily independent characters who have twice not voted for either Callaghan or Foot. One or two voted for Crosland, but not many. Therefore the votes remain anybody's.

"Out of that 38 we hope to get 26, but do not mean we shall. Either way, it is going to be a tight, close finish. There are been people who have changed their minds all along the line."

Mr Callaghan's camp showed confidence there Mr Foot's lieutenants seemed to demonstrate defiance. Mr John Cunningham, MP for Whitehaven and the Foreign Secretary's parliamentary private secretary, said that he and his colleagues were not surprised by the second-round figures and "we are still quietly confident Jim Callaghan is going to win the election".

He agreed that the distribution of Mr Healey's 38 mobile votes would be decisive. "We are taking nothing for granted, but we have never believed it was a foregone conclusion. It has been very close right through, and we think it is still going to be close."

But then Mr Cunningham looked forward to a certainty. "Mr Callaghan will be a Prime Minister in his own way, with his own approach to government, and any speculation whether that lasts 10 months or 10 years is just speculation."

If all the first-ballot centre-right votes had gone to Mr Callaghan from Mr Jenkins and Mr Crosland, he would have polled 157, a conclusive winning figure. If all Mr Wedgwood Benn's votes had gone to Mr Foot, he would have polled 127.

Clearly the pattern of centre-right versus left was broken: Mr Callaghan polled below strength, Mr Foot above his. And it is fair to say, as Mr Silkin did, that the Healey voters are independently minded and nobody's men.

But the fact remains that a number, even a decisive number, of Healey supporters, at the third ballot, prefer Mr Callaghan. That gives ground for saying that Mr Callaghan is more likely to pick up the floating vote than Mr Foot and emerge as the winner.

After all, the main objective of the Healey men was to establish their standard bearer as the centre-right's main candidate for the next leadership election, whenever it may come, especially now that Mr Jenkins is considered to have lost enough support to be destroyed as a challenger.

With his 38 votes they feel satisfied, and can turn to Mr Callaghan. They have proved their point, established their future candidate.

It could be argued that the PLP could not become a carbon copy of the Conservative Party by bringing forward a woman as leader, but by the time the next leadership election comes Mrs Williams will be under formidable pressure to let her name go forward. She could possibly recoup some of the votes Mr Jenkins has lost for the Gaitskellite centre-right.

Those close to Mr Callaghan say that he is relaxed, as has been his manner since the general election of 1974, but undoubtedly he realizes that he has the best chance of succeeding Mr Wilson at no 10.

It would be a mistake to think that he would run the Government and the government machine in Mr Wilson's style. He has his own ideas, based on his 30 years' experience as a practical politician who has never shown much interest in theory or ideology.

The third ballot now takes its course. Ballot papers were available in the Parliamentary Labour Party's whips' office from 8 o'clock last night and they are returnable by noon on Monday. The result will be announced at a party meeting that day.

Because the first two ballots have been inconclusive, Mr Wilson, the retiring Prime Minister, will go with Mr Callaghan, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, to the EEC summit opening in Luxembourg tomorrow, and running on into Friday.

If Mr Callaghan had been elected last night he intended to nominate Mr Hattersley, his Minister of State on European affairs, to serve as the deputy for the Foreign Secretary.

If Mr Callaghan does become Prime Minister, Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, his campaign manager, who has clearly earned a release from the pressures of his present post, must be reckoned a potential Home Secretary. Mr Hattersley may also be regarded as due for promotion.

SECOND BALLOT

Mr Callaghan	141
Mr Foot	133
Mr Healey	38

A total of 317 ballot papers were issued and 312 were returned.

Press conferences, page 2
Leading article, page 15

Israeli troops hustle an Arab youth down a street in Nazareth: he was said to have thrown stones at security forces.

Six Arabs killed in Galilee's day of violence

From Eric Marsden
Nazareth, March 30

Twenty-four hours of violent clashes with Israeli security forces in Galilee tonight left at least six Arabs dead, 260 arrested, and some 69 people—including 38 soldiers and police—injured.

The Arabs were demonstrating against government plans to expropriate land for the extension of Jewish settlements, and the clashes today were more severe than any of those in the occupied West Bank during the past two months.

Although order was restored in most areas by mid-afternoon after Arab community leaders had toured towns and villages appealing for the demonstrators to return to their homes, most shops and offices in the Galilee region were shut as part of a general strike and sympathy protests were held in Jerusalem and some West Bank towns.

In a statement tonight the Army and police said that the security forces used "the utmost restraint in the face of the brutality of the demonstrators". The rigid rule that fire was opened only in "dire circumstances" had been followed.

The trouble began last night when four troops in a military lorry and three policemen on patrol were injured by stones near the village of Deir Hanna. Half an hour later another army vehicle was held up and set on fire by rioters, who hurled bottles and tins of paraffin at it.

Police fired warning shots, but failed to stem the attack, and in a further outbreak of shooting seven rioters were wounded. One died later in hospital.

A curfew was imposed on Deir Hanna and the neighbouring villages of Sakhnin and Arabeh, but early this morning it was broken at Sakhnin by villagers who left their homes to demonstrate and throw stones. Security forces were called in to enforce the curfew and pitched battles ensued. Villagers charged the troops and in one incident besieged three soldiers and three policemen in a house.

Three Arabs were killed in the village when troops opened fire on a crowd after warning shots had failed to disperse them. Twenty members of the security forces were wounded. An Arab was killed by gunfire at Tireh in the "Triangle" area about 20 miles north-east of Tel Aviv.

The sixth death was in the ancient town of Cana of Galilee, scene of Jesus's first miracle. I was in Cana during the incident and heard shots from the hill above me as a crowd of angry youths clashed with security forces. A 15-year-old boy was killed and another youth seriously injured.

Although Israeli citizens, the Arab youths cursed the troops and shouted slogans against Israel; after the government forces scattered them, they regrouped, and drew more apparently long-range shots.

A dazed teenager in a blood-soaked shirt told me that the blood was from one of the shot boys whom he had tried to help. Tear gas fired from missile guns at a range of 100 yards was also used to disperse the Cana rioters.

Earlier, in Nazareth, I watched a battle between police and members of the family of Mr Toufiq Ziad, the Communist mayor. Stones were thrown from the roof of Mr Ziad's apartment building; police later entered and after a struggle arrested several occupants, said to be members of the mayor's family.

Mr Ziad was not at home. He had been called by the district commissioner at 4.30 am and asked to make a radio appeal for calm, but he refused, saying that the people had a right to stage demonstrations.

Today's violence comes after a long battle of wills between the Israel authorities and Arab militants spearheaded by leaders of the Rakah (new Communist) Party. More than a month ago the Arabs announced their intention of declaring a "land day" on March 30, and have been working ever since in the towns and villages to organize the strike and demonstrations.

Government officials countered with a propaganda campaign aimed at preventing the stoppage and preserving order.

'Israeli troops on Lebanon border', page 6:
Leading article, page 15

Inquiry upholds complaints of grossly bad care for mental hospital's patients

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

Senior doctors and nurses, administrators and responsible hospital authorities are severely criticized in a report published yesterday for dismissing complaints about grossly bad care and treatment of patients in long-stay wards at St Augustine's Hospital for the mentally ill, near Canterbury.

The complaints by Dr Brian Aakers, who worked at the hospital as a temporary nurse from 1972 to 1974 while taking a doctorate at the University of Kent, and Mr Olleste Weston, a registered mental nurse, in April, 1974, and February, 1975, are largely upheld.

The inquiry found that St Augustine's was a typical mental hospital and in many respects very good, but that the inadequacies were probably common to such hospitals throughout the country.

One consultant, now retired but still treating patients at the hospital, had shown in one instance a casual approach to electro-convulsive therapy and in another had ordered a disturbingly large number of such treatments.

One patient had frequently to be carried to the treatment, sometimes pleading not to have it, and was then held down, the report says. Once he was so violent that he was injured and an attempt to anaesthetize him was discontinued.

Patients were struck on the ear by a charge nurse and others more severely hit. Some nurses teased a blind patient. Patients were put to bed naked. Some were given urine-soaked slippers or urine-soaked pillows dried on radiators when replacements ran out.

Patients had a daily strip wash, but did not have more than one bath a month and some had a bath only every two or three months.

Night clothes were in such short supply that men had to wear female attire. Physiotherapists found that patients could not do exercises because they needed both hands to keep up over-size trousers.

In a foreword the committee of inquiry, chaired by Mr J. Hampden Inskip, QC, says that the report would cause distress to some staff, but although there were many unsatisfactory practices and unnecessary mistakes, all the staff thought that they were doing their best and many were. Much remained to be done, but any patient could

Continued on page 2, col 2

Mr Scanlon orders the Leyland strikers to go back 'forthwith'

By R. W. Shakespeare and Tim Jones

Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, and the union's seven-man national executive yesterday ordered two groups of British Leyland strikers to return to work "forthwith".

The order was issued directly to 32 toolroom workers involved in a dispute at the Leyland-owned plant of SU Carburetters in Birmingham and 350 toolroom men on strike at the Triumph car plant in Coventry, where all production is at a standstill.

It came as the total of Leyland workers made idle by three strikes—the third is by 400 toolmakers at eight Rover plants—rose to nearly 10,000, and the threat to thousands of more jobs mounted. So far some £16m worth of production has been lost.

In Birmingham and Coventry last night there was little indication that the union directive would bring a quick response from the strikers. A ruling by Mr Scanlon that their pay claims "cannot be successfully pursued within the policy of the union" means that if the strikers were to defy the executive instruction they would be in serious breach of union rules.

In the case of the Rover plants, seven in the Midlands and another in Cardiff, the AUEW executive decided to postpone a decision, because it needed more information. This strike, which has halted all output of Land-Rovers and Range Rovers at Solihull, is over interpretation of a national agreement.

Total lay-offs by last night included more than 3,000 Triumph workers at Coventry and 630 at Liverpool, 2,700 at the Rover plant at Solihull and a further 1,880 in six of the group's component factories, plus 460 at SU Carburetter.

The SU factory at Birmingham supplies carburettors for the entire Leyland car and van ranges and the assembly plants are working from stocks held before the strike began. Without a return to work at Birmingham, stocks would start to run out next week.

Last night a Leyland spokesman said: "It would not be possible to stockpile incomplete cars, and unless supplies of carburettors can be restored before stocks are exhausted it will be a case of having to shut down full assembly lines. There would be some flexibility about which models were taken out of production first, but it would only be a matter of time before all assembly areas were affected."

The immediate effects of more car assembly shutdowns will be to make up to 20,000 workers idle, while a prolonged stoppage could spread the lay-offs to thousands more.

The SU men have been demanding wage parity with other Leyland plants, which would mean an increase of about £6 in their present basic rate of £60 a week. The Department of Employment has ruled that to meet the strikers' claim would be a breach of the Government's pay code.

The strikers are fully aware of the ruling. Their stoppage has therefore become a direct challenge to the pay policies agreed between the Government and the trade unions.

After yesterday's meeting of his executive, Mr Scanlon said the stoppage was not only in breach of the pay policy but was also contrary to the union's policy.

At the Triumph plant in Coventry, the dispute centres on a claim for increases of nearly £2 a week, which, the men say, are needed to restore a differential over production workers. Lengthy management-union negotiations and an approach to the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service have failed.

Boy witness and QC clash in Hain trial

By Stewart Tendler

A boy aged 12 said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he saw Peter Hain, president of the Young Liberals, being chased after a London bank robbery, saw him throw away a bundle of money and later enter a bookshop.

The evidence of Damian Keady, which led to clashes with the defence, came on the second day of Mr Hain's trial for the theft of £490 from Barclays Bank in Upper Richmond Road, Putney, last October. Mr Hain has pleaded not guilty.

The boy followed eight witnesses who all said they could not positively identify Mr Hain as the thief.

Mr Timothy Hayne, a bank accountant, who chased the thief, said he thought the man was "a little Spanish or something".

Damian Keady said that he and three other boys saw the chase by Mr Hayne and followed. Later they saw Mr Hain get out of a car in Werter Road and go into a bookstore. They took his car registration.

The boy said he thought Mr Hain was the same man he had seen Mr Hayne pursuing. He followed him into the shop. He added: "I thought it was maybe the same chap we had been chasing. I was 20 yards away in the shop. I think he is the same man".

Mr Hain's clothes, he said, were the same as those of the thief, and he was shown a check shirt, jeans and a pair of brown suede shoes. The thief he said, was wearing glasses.

Mr Lewis Hawser, QC, for the defence, began over an hour of cross-examination and had not finished at the end of the day. He told the boy no other witnesses had mentioned a check shirt and then pointed out that the boy had said it had a blue check when Mr Hain's was brown.

The boy admitted that he and John Brewster and Neil Lovelock had discussed the case outside the court on Monday after first denying it.

Mr Hawser said that the boy had not told the police of the dropping of the money and and added: "You are wrong about the man wearing glasses." The boy would not be moved from his evidence.

Damian Keady said he had been asked by the police about a conversation among the boys. He did not admit this when first asked by Mr Hawser because he did not remember it.

The boy also denied that Terence Maclaren, one of his friends, had told the others in the shop that the man there was not the one they had chased.

At Mr Hawser's request, the police officer in charge of the case in court left. At the end it was agreed the officer should not take the boy home.

The trial continues today.

Report, page 5

Catalogue of Picasso works completed

From Richard Wigg
Paris, March 30

Pablo Picasso left 1,500 paintings and 6,000 drawings, many of them strewn about his four homes and in bank safes, according to M Maurice Rheims, the French art expert who has just finished cataloguing the work of the Spanish painter, who died in April, 1973.

M Rheims, who worked with 10 assistants, has also catalogued some 600 pieces of sculpture and hundreds of small pencilled sketches, as well as some done in paint.

This task, entrusted to him by the lawyers engaged by the widow, Mme Jacqueline Picasso, and other heirs, is the essential preliminary to bequeathing part of the estate for a future Picasso museum and to dividing up the remainder among Picasso's descendants.

It is estimated it will take another year's negotiations before the latter task can be completed. A favourable basis has been laid in a recent series of secret family reunions.

In the next few weeks, however, a decision should be possible about which works are to form the nucleus of the Picasso museum.

According to French art circles, the Picasso heirs reached agreement in their meetings to consult each other before any future sales of his works so as to avoid a drastic fall in prices. If even a small part of such a massive collection was unloaded on the market.

May Day will be made a Bank holiday

By Michael Horsnell

A May Day Bank holiday will be introduced in 1978 in celebration of British labour, although May 1 may not be the day on which it is taken.

Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, told the Commons yesterday that the day would be chosen after consultations with the TUC, the CBI and the banks.

The announcement came after years of pressure from the labour movement and absenteeism in industry. It was welcomed by the Communist Party.

The move brings Britain's total of public holidays to eight days a year, but Italy has 17 and Belgium, France, West Germany and Luxembour have 10.

May 1 is celebrated throughout western Europe, except Italy, but a Department of Employment official explained that in Britain the day may vary so that it does not conflict with a weekend.

Mr Foot also announced plans to grant holidays in lieu of other public holidays which fall at weekends, with effect from Christmas Day and Boxing Day, 1976, and New Year's Day, 1977.

Our Political Staff writes: Separate consultations will be held in Northern Ireland and Scotland, where public holidays are arranged on a local basis. One extra Bank holiday is already proposed for next year, to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee.

Sir Derek Ezra stays at NCB

Sir Derek Ezra has been reappointed as chairman of the National Coal Board for the next three years. Sir Derek who is 57, will retire at the end of his term. The announcement of his reappointment by Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, came against a background of upheaval among the leaders of the nationalized industries. Sir Derek, who has held his £23,100 a year job "by mutual agreement", became chairman of the NCB in 1971

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Asbestos inquiry

Mr Max Madden, Labour MP for Sowerby, welcomed a decision announced by Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, to review asbestos health risks after criticism by the Ombudsman of an asbestos plant at Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire. But Mr Madden said that only a wholly independent public inquiry would allay public concern.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Cyprus leaders' offer

In separate interviews with *The Times*, President Makarios, of Cyprus, and Mr Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot leader, have both said they would consider standing down if that would make a settlement in the country easier.

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Burns night: At the age of 80, comedian George Burns has won his first Hollywood Oscar. The award, for best supporting actor, is for his performance in *The Sunshine Boys*. Here he receives a congratulatory kiss from actress Linda Blair Page 6

Ulster controversy: Republicans say they saw a delegation of "loyalist" paramilitary leaders being shown new cells at the Maze prison 2

Montgomery funeral: Five field marshals will be among the pall bearers at tomorrow's funeral of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein 2

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United Arab Emirates: A 14-page Special Report on one of the world's richest nations and how it is spending its money

Lockheed hit by big TriStar losses

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation announced huge losses on the Rolls-Royce-powered TriStar jet programme, which along with other problems gave rise to further speculation about the company's ability to stave off bankruptcy

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HOME NEWS

£58m rise in Concorde costs last year

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Costs of the Concorde supersonic airliner rose a further £58m over the past 12 months to a total of £1,154m, shared between Britain and France, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, told the Commons yesterday.

The sum was accounted for by pay and price increases and variations in exchange rates.

It was disclosed in another Commons answer yesterday, that the Prime Minister had received an invitation to fly in the Concorde, but no details have been fixed. Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, asked the Prime Minister: "Before you leave office, will you reaffirm your total commitment to ensuring the success of the project, and urge your successor, whoever he may be, to take an early flight?"

Mr Wilson replied: "Yes to the first part of your question, and yes to the second part, because I have recently had an invitation."

The Department of Industry yesterday confirmed that the British Aircraft Corporation is negotiating with an undisclosed foreign airline for Concorde orders.

The disclosure came from Mr Mervyn Hulin, chief shop steward of the Transport and General Workers' Union at Rolls-Royce, who met Mr Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, after the minister discussed Concorde in Paris on Monday.

Mr Tom Lynch, secretary of the British Aircraft Corporation and Rolls-Royce liaison committee, said yesterday: "We do not feel the Government is exerting enough pressure to sell Concorde."

Jobs in jeopardy, page 21

Jail remand for girl aged 16

A girl of 16 accused at Alton Juvenile Court, Hampshire, yesterday of possessing a shotgun and cartridges at a comprehensive school with intent to endanger life was remanded to Holloway prison for a further week despite a protest from her father.

He said his daughter was having to mix with convicted criminals even though she had not been found guilty of any offence.

Tribunal is to be 'essentially non-political' and will be concerned only with points of law

Court for employment appeals opens

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

An opulent, eighteenth-century house in St James's Square, London, is the unlikely setting for the new appeal court for disputes arising from employment, which opens today. It was last occupied privately by Lord and Lady (Nancy) Astor.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal, set up by the Employment Protection Act, 1975, will hear all appeals on points of law from the decisions of industrial tribunals under laws dealing with various aspects of employment.

They include Acts on sex discrimination, equal pay, redundancy payments, and other legislation protecting the employee in his job, pay, and right of associaton.

The president of the court is Mr Justice Phillips, a High Court judge. Six other judges, including a Scottish judge, have been appointed to sit on the tribunal, part time. An appeal will be heard by a judge sitting with two (and sometimes four) lay members, all having equal voting power.

The 18 lay representatives have been appointed on the basis of their "special knowledge or experience of industrial relations", half from the employers side, the other half representing the workers.

Comparisons between the tribunal and the ill-fated National Industrial Relations Court set up by the last Conservative government are inevitable, but wide of the mark.

As Mr Justice Phillips puts it: "The tribunal is essentially non-political." In all but a tiny number of cases its jurisdiction is to hear appeals from industrial tribunals on points of law. It cannot hear appeals on factual issues, or deal with disputes as a court of first instance. It will not, other than in exceptional circumstances, hear live evidence.

Some superficial resemblances between the two courts remain. The bench of the tribunal is also made up of a judge and lay members. Neither the judge nor lawyers will be robed or wigged. The judge will be addressed as "Sir" and not as "Your Lordship".

Because the argument will be on questions of law, there will inevitably be a legal ambience in the tribunal. Everything is being done, however, to make it as easy and as friendly as possible for the large number of litigants in person expected to bring appeals.

Lodging an appeal will require little more than filling in a simple form, and advice will be available at the entrance to the court to help appellants, as well as people inquiring about their rights of appeal. Once an appeal has been lodged the tribunal's office will do most of the copying and administrative work on behalf of the appellant.

One possible cause for dissatisfaction arises from the provisions on costs. Broadly, the tribunal will have no power to award costs, even to the successful party, unless there has been, effectively, an abuse of the proceedings.

That means that unless an appellant is legally aided he will have to pay his own costs, which may prevent him from using a lawyer even in a complicated case.

Complaints about hospital upheld

Continued from page 1

now enter the hospital with confidence.

Although many in responsible positions, including doctors, felt that there was much in the criticisms, medical staff dismissed them as immature, naive, and unrealistic.

The inquiry concludes that there were good grounds for feeling that open, free discussion was discouraged and that patients and staff found normal channels of criticism frustrating.

A report by the Hospital Advisory Service in 1971 was tolerated rather than welcomed, and in part resented. Yet had it been discussed and acted upon, the critiques by Dr Ankers and Mr Weston would not have been written.

A former member of the regional hospital board and the hospital management committee had said of the criticism by Dr Ankers and Mr Weston: "I doubt that this campaign of witch-hunting, digging up drains, opening cesspools, is in the best interests of patients or recruitment of staff. I believe it may be part of a coordinated movement throughout the world to attack psychiatric methods and mental health care."

The inquiry concludes that consultants failed to give sufficient attention to long stay wards. It says they admitted that they knew they provided insufficient time and that reviews of patients took place at unacceptably infrequent intervals, but preserved their old image of having total ultimate responsibility.

Nurses regarded themselves as under the control of the doctors and waited for them to initiate changes. There was lack of initiative by senior nursing officers and nursing officers. A new principal nursing officer, appointed in September, 1972, brought new ideas and a far from subservient attitude, but found that he was unable to use his initiative and left in May, 1974.

The committee comments: "We were left with the impression that there had been a deliberate closing of the higher ranks to prevent this intruder from disturbing the accepted balance of power."

The management committee seemed to be unaware of the extent of the deficiencies on the long stay wards.

The inquiry calls for managers to take responsibility and for those with a monitoring role to satisfy themselves by personal visits and inspection.

Mr John Donne, chairman of the South-East Thames Regional Health Authority, stated yesterday that he doubted whether any hospital would be able to emerge unblemished from such a searching examination. The committee had perhaps been overcritical of some staff who were not fully able to cope with practical difficulties, not least those caused by understaffing and unreasonably heavy workloads.

The authority, with the Kent area authority, would take urgent action. Some of the shortcomings had been tackled.

Our Medical Correspondent writes: The catalogue of misery shows how far the practice of mental treatment differs from the theory.

Not until society changes its attitudes to people with mental illness will psychiatric treatment acquire the purpose it needs to be effective and to attract enthusiastic medical and nursing staff.

(Report of Committee of Inquiry, St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham, Canterbury. (SE Thames Regional Health Authority, Randolph House, Wellesley Road, Croydon).

Leading article, page 15

Challenge on cost of free school places

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

Central and local government was spending between £50m and £100m a year on free and assisted places at independent schools, comprehensive school campaigners said yesterday.

Dame Margaret Miles, former headmistress of Mayfield School, London, and chairman of the Campaign for Comprehensive Education, called for an investigation into how public money was being spent at a time of financial crisis.

The figures were described by the Independent Schools Information Service as a wild exaggeration.

The Department of Education and Science did not know how much was spent by local government.

A paper presented by the campaign at a press conference in London contained the results of returns from five local authorities. The campaigners declined to name the authorities, as the figures had been obtained confidentially, but they are understood to include Surrey, Bedfordshire, and possibly Bolton. The returns showed that each spent an average of £650,000 a year on places at independent schools.

The campaign argues that that sample is typical, local government over the country would be spending about £50m or £60m. Central government departments were spending £30m a year on boarding school places for children of diplomats and those in the Armed Forces.

Professor Maurice Peston, former adviser to Mr Prentice when he was Secretary of State for Education and Science, said the likely bill for ratepayers and taxpayers was £100m a year, excluding £80m which he estimated independent schools received from benefits of their charitable staus.

The five authorities in the campaign's survey paid the fees or helped an average of 800 pupils each. If they were typical of the rest of the country, the 104 education authorities would be assisting more than 80,000 pupils.

The Department of Education and Science said that local authorities paid for 21,000 pupils at independent schools at January, 1975. The Independent Schools Information Service said its census returns showed that free and assisted places (including those paid for by government departments) totalled 18,637 in 1974-75.

It looked last night as if the campaign had included places taken up at direct-grant schools, which are shortly to be phased out. The figure of £80m for charitable status is thought by the public schools to be a large exaggeration.

Men in raft were too weak to hold lifeline

The ordeal of 13 seamen in a leaking liferaft was described at a Department of Trade inquiry at Swansea yesterday into the loss of the cargo ship Lovat off Penzance in January, 1975. Eleven men lost their lives. Mr Michael Thomas, QC, said that some of the men were wearing only tee-shirts. All had life-jackets, except the master, "who seems to have given his to someone else".

A gale was blowing and waves were 30ft high. Men tried to bail out water with their shoes. Some of them got out and hung on to lifelines to preserve the efficiency of the raft for those inside. But they weakened through loss of body heat, and died before help arrived.

In the raft, water was four feet deep. Mr Thomas said there would be evidence that one man drowned in the raft. A canister of flares had been found, but the men's hands were too cold to open it.

By 8 am when an Irish vessel, the St Patrick, arrived, those remaining in the raft were too exhausted to grasp a lifeline.

About 8.30, a Whirlwind helicopter lowered a diver, but had to cut his line. In trying to provide a shield against the wind, the St Patrick came too close and created turbulence that put the aircraft in difficulties.

In the raft the diver tried to encourage and comfort the four men then still alive. When a Sea King helicopter arrived at 9.15, only two of the crew had survived.

Mr Thomas said that the lower tube of the liferaft had been holed by fungus. The raft, which was made in 1961, should have been tested two weeks before the Lovat sailed from Swansea.

"If it had been examined, it would have been condemned and the crew would have had a safe, sound, effective liferaft," he said. He submitted that the defects in the liferaft were the prime cause of the heavy loss of life.

Mr John Roach, for the National Coal Board, said that the board had no knowledge of any ship having had difficulties with cargoes of washed anthracite duff. In May, 1974, when transport by road to Swansea docks was introduced, the board did not consider whether the change would adversely affect the moisture content.

"With the benefit of hindsight the board regrets not having given consideration to this matter in May, 1974", he said. "Having said that, the board leaves it to the court to consider how far, if at all, in the events that occurred, that omission contributed to the loss of the Lovat."

The hearing continues today.

Students' union likely to consider ballot voting

By Our Education Correspondent

The National Union of Students is almost certain to set up a working party to study the introduction of secret ballots for union elections.

At present 15 of the 17 executive members are elected by the eight hundred or so delegates who attend the union's twice-yearly conferences. About sixty candidates will contest the elections being held next week at the conference in Llandudno.

Proposals to change the voting system have come from Liberals, Conservatives and a group called Students for Representative Policies, who are coming to the conference in larger numbers than ever before. They expect to get the support of about two hundred delegates for the working party.

Mr Charles Clarke, president of the union, said in London yesterday that the working party plan was likely to be approved. The executive had not made up its mind but the Broad Left, the dominant grouping, did not oppose a working party provided it examined the union's constitution as a whole.

He said the Conservative student force had reached the highest peak of its strength. From now on Conservative influence would wane, he believed.

Accommodation grants: The Government is to give grants to increase the supply of accommodation for students, Mr Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, said in a parliamentary written answer yesterday.

Nearly 200,000 students lived outside halls of residence and away from home; that figure was expected to increase in the next five years.

In areas where student demand seriously impinged on the general housing market, particularly in areas of stress and pressure, housing schemes which in practice would be mainly occupied by students would be eligible for subsidy or grant, he said. A proviso was that they must contribute directly or indirectly to the general housing needs of the area.

Local authorities would be asked to make available for housing students land not required for educational purposes. The Department of the Environment will shortly approach housing, university and local education authorities about the proposals.

Five field marshals at Montgomery funeral

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Five field marshals, one general, an admiral of the fleet and a marshal of the Royal Air Force will be the pall bearers when the funeral of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein takes place tomorrow at St George's Chapel, Windsor.

The procession will leave Victoria Barracks at 11.05 am and march along Victoria Street, Sheet Street, High Street, Castle Hill, through Henry VIII Gateway and Horseshoe Cloisters to arrive at the chapel for the 11.30 service.

The pall bearers will be Field Marshal Lord Harding, Field Marshal Sir Richard Hull, Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer, Field Marshal Sir Geoffrey Baker, Field Marshal Sir Michael Carver, Major-General Sir Francis de Guingand, Lord Montgomery's Chief of Staff during the war, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Peter Hill-Norton and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson.

The family mourners will be Viscount Montgomery, Lord Montgomery's son; Colonel Brian Montgomery, his brother, and Mr Henry Montgomery, his grandson.

Overseas representatives will include Dr Joseph Luns, Secretary-General of Nato; General Alexander Haig, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Europe (Saceur); General Sir Harry Tuzo, deputy Saceur; Admiral David Bagley, Commander in Chief US Naval Forces Europe; Marshal of Aviation S. I. Rudenko, Soviet Union; General Marcel Bigeard and General D'Aime Simon, France; General J. A. Destraze, Chief of Defence Staff, Canada; Major-General O. J. Bangstad, Norway; Lieutenant-General A. J. W. Wijting, Netherlands; Lieutenant-General K. Jaergensen, Denmark; Lieutenant-General H. J. Martin, South Africa; Major-General G. Sliwinski and Brigadier F. Slibinski of Poland, who served with Lord Montgomery during the war; Mr Lance Barnard, Australia.

A Guard of Honour will be mounted by two officers and 48 men at St George's Chapel beside Horseshoe Cloisters by the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards.

A salute of 19 guns will be fired by The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery in the Long Walk. Chargers of The King's Troop RHA will pull the gun carriage bearing the coffin. On the coffin will be the field marshal's baton, sword and beret, together with the Union Jack.

China paid an official tribute to Lord Montgomery yesterday. In a message from Peking Mr Hua Kuo-peng, acting Prime Minister, spoke of his bravery in the fight against "the fascist aggressors" during the Second World War. "On behalf of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and in my own name, I wish to express our deep condolences over the passing away of Field Marshal Montgomery, as well as our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family."

Bernard Levin, 14

Tenants' safeguards

From today private landlords will have to advise tenants in writing of their basic rights under the law when serving notice to quit. New regulations will mean that even after the notice has run out the landlord must get a court possession order before the tenant can be evicted.

Jail for widow murder

Charles Henry Derry, aged 28, was jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for the murder of Mrs Lilian Johnson, a widow of 65, at her home in Herne Hill, south London. He was said to have stamped on her face until it was unrecognizable.

Commons turns dark as Mr Wilson bows out

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

With an electronic masterstroke that would have done credit to a Hollywood impresario, the lights in the House of Commons went out yesterday at precisely the moment that Mr Wilson sat down at the end of Prime Minister's question time after positively his last appearance at the Dispatch Box. His next visit to the chamber will be as a backbencher.

As the lights dimmed and Big Ben tolled the hour of 3.30, MPs looked cautiously about as though expecting Mr Wilson to disappear in a cloud of smoke. A Tory MP called anxiously for candles and from the darkening gloom around the Chair came the voice of the Speaker reassuring the House that every effort would be made to restore the lighting.

With Mrs Wilson watching from a gallery above, the Prime Minister gave no indication that he would be any the mellower in his new elder statesman role.

As Mrs Thatcher dug her talons into him for the last time with a question about the increasing burden of taxation, Mr Wilson turned on the Tory leader telling her that she possessed "a total lack of gumption in all political matters". She had exceeded even herself in attempting to interfere with union elections, he added.

It was a typical question time, starting with a query whether the Prime Minister was aware that the greatest concentration of paper mills in the country was in the constituency of Bury and Radcliffe, and ending with a rebuff for the European policies of General de Gaulle.

Appropriately, because Mr Neil Marten has been one of Mr Wilson's most persistent questioners from the Tory back benches, his was the last question to the Prime Minister.

As it was 3.30, Mr Marten said, could he congratulate the Prime Minister on the dexterity with which he had tried to answer, not always successfully, the questions in this House.

Another farewell of a sort came from Mr Andrew Faulds, one of the most regular and irritating thorns in Mr Wilson's flesh on the Labour side of the Commons.

To the surprise of MPs, the member for Warley, East, remarked that since he had always been "a 150 per cent Harold man" would the Prime Minister, when he retired to the back benches, come and join the congenial company around Mr Faulds instead of going to the traditional seat below the gangway.

With a flash of Prime Ministerial wit, Mr Wilson replied that if Mr Faulds had always been "a 150 per cent Harold Wilson man", for the first time he was beginning to understand the meaning of inflation. He hoped he would be able to continue to help Mr Faulds wherever he was sitting.

But Mr Wilson was also at his most waspish as one hamfisted Tory MP tried to make political capital out of Mr Solzhenitsyn's unfavourable comparison of the United Kingdom with Uganda and Romania. Mr Wilson retorted that Mr Solzhenitsyn had the right to say what he wanted but that he had no experience of this country.

Mr Wilson totally rejected what the Russian had said about Britain and added that if the Conservative Party thought it had anything to gain by exploiting what Mr Solzhenitsyn said, it would be proved badly wrong.

Switching to the EEC, the Prime Minister went on to a more serious note in telling the House that he hoped the Community would reject its system of total standardization of everything we ate, drank, bought and sold. The strength of the EEC and Europe should be in the diversity of our cultures and not in standardized uniformity. Then, with a few final flourishes and an announcement that he would soon be taking a flight in Concorde, Mr Wilson bowed to the Chair and retired from the fray.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Paramilitary leaders inspected prison

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

The Northern Ireland Office was last night at the centre of an embarrassing controversy over the continuing secret contacts between its senior officials and prominent members of Ulster's network of paramilitary groups.

It followed an incident at the Maze prison at Long Kesh, last Sunday when Mr Stanley Hilditch, the Governor, was seen by republican prisoners politely showing a four-man delegation of "loyalist" paramilitary leaders around a new but unoccupied cell block.

No official information about the guided tour was given until yesterday, when a Stormont Castle official confirmed that a delegation from the Ulster Loyalist Central Coordinating Committee "had made a request to look round, which was agreed to".

The committee is the umbrella organization covering most of the armed paramilitary groups, which was responsible for organizing the violent street protests against the ending of special category status last month. The new cells in H block visited at the weekend will house the first convicted terrorists denied special status under the new legislation.

No official details about the identity of the paramilitary delegation were available last night but it is understood to have included Mr Andrew Tyrie, supreme commander of the Ulster Defence Association, and Mr John McKeague, a spokesman for the loyalist army council.

The Government refused to confirm or deny local reports that representatives from two illegal Protestant organizations, the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Red Hand Commandos, were also included.

Mr McKeague, deputy chairman of the coordinating committee, said that the tour was arranged after one of several meetings which the organization had attended with Northern Ireland Office representatives. He said the delegation would be meeting soon to decide whether the accommodation was acceptable and would pass on its decision to the Government.

The controversy comes at a delicate time when the Government is being repeatedly warned from all sides in Ulster about the dangers of allowing the vacuum created by the absence of the Convention to be filled by the extreme paramilitary groupings.

Soldier killed: During the morning a soldier was killed and two others were injured when a booby trap bomb planted by the Provisional IRA exploded while troops were searching an isolated Orange Hall near Lurgan. The dead man was Corporal Donald Trayner, aged 28, of Manchester, serving with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. He was the second soldier killed in Ulster this year.

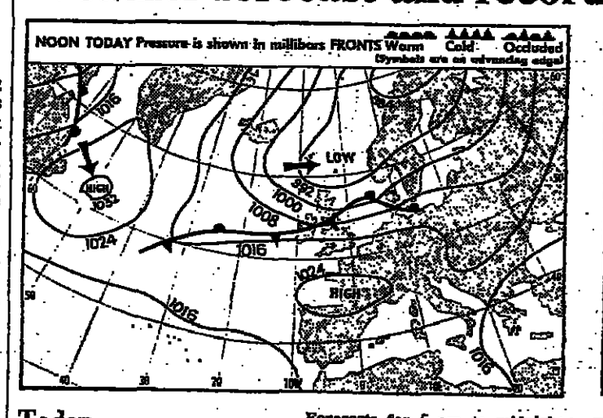
Police question woman on bombing

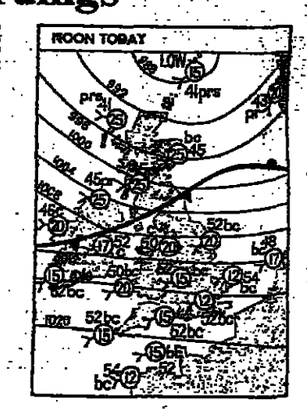
A woman was still being questioned by Scotland Yard's counter-terrorism squad last night in connexion with inquiries into recent bomb attacks in London. Her husband and their daughter, aged 15, were released.

The family were detained on Monday at their home in Walthamstow, east London, under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

In Belfast earlier, Mrs Maire Drumm, vice-president of the Provisional Sinn Fein, had criticized the arrest of the girl.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 6.38 am Sun sets: 7.32 pm
Moon rises: 6.39 am Moon sets: 8.41 pm
First quarter: April 7.
Lighting up: 8.2 pm to 6.6 am.
High water: London Bridge, 3.14 am, 7.2m (23.5ft); 3.35 pm, 7.3m (23.8ft). Avonmouth, 8.43 am, 12.9m (42.4ft); 8.56 pm, 12.8m (42.1ft). Dover, 12.19 am, 6.6m (21.5ft); 12.34 pm, 6.4m (21.1ft). Hull, 7.35 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 7.39 pm, 7.1m (23.3ft). Liverpool, 12.28 am, 8.9m (29.1ft); 12.40 pm, 9.1m (29.8ft).

A W airstream covers all areas. Weak troughs of low pressure will affect N districts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S, SW England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel Islands: Dry, rather cloudy, bright intervals; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 12°C (54°F).

E, NW, NE, central N England, Lake District: Rather cloudy, rain or drizzle at times; wind W, fresh; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Wales: Rather cloudy, perhaps rain later; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Rather cloudy with some rain in S and temp near normal; colder, brighter weather with wintry showers over N districts will spread slowly S.

Sea passages: S North Sea and Strait of Dover: Wind W, moderate or fresh, perhaps strong later; sea mainly moderate.

English Channel (E) and St George's Channel: Wind W, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

Irish Sea: Wind W, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 14°C (57°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 7°C (45°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 61 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 4.6hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,021.1 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Aberdeen	s	10	50	Chicago	c	10	50	Lisbon	s	18	64
Algiers	s	20	68	Cologne	c	10	50	Locarno	s	14	57
Amstrdm	r	9	48	Copenhgn	r	6	43	London	s	14	57
Athens	s	16	61	Dublin	c	10	50	Luxemburg	c	12	54
Barcelona	s	14	57	Edinburgh	r	8	46	Madrid	s	20	68
Belfast	r	7	45	Florence	s	16	61	Majorca	s	18	64
Berlin	r	7	45	Geneva	s	16	61	Malaga	s	18	64
Bermuda	c	20	68	Gibraltar	s	16	61	Malta	s	18	64
Biarritz	c	12	54	Guernsey	s	10	50	Manchstr	c	9	48
Birmingham	c	10	50	Helsinki	c	0	32	Miami	f	28	83
Bristol	c	10	50	Innsbruck	r	11	52	Montreal	c	0	32
Brussels	r	11	52	Jersey	s	11	52	Moscow	c	0	32
Cardiff	c	9	48	C Palmas	c	19	66	Munich	r	10	50

	C	F
Naples	f	15
Nice	s	16
Oslo	r	7
Paris	c	11
Reykjavik	c	2
Rome	s	16
Stockholm	c	5
Tel Aviv	s	24
Toronto	s	10
Venice	r	14
Vienna	s	16
Warsaw	c	8
Zurich	s	18

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, BFr 65; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, Dkr 3.75; Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Frs 3.00; Germany, Dmk 2.00; Greece, Dr 26; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 450; Luxembourg, Lf 50; Madeira, Esc 17.50; Malta, 9d; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 25; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, Sfr 0.30; USA/Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 20.

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Mr Healey 'would like to keep present job'

By Our Political Staff

Mr Healey, the eliminated candidate in the Labour leadership contest, who received 38 votes (compared with 30 in the first ballot), told reporters after the result of the second ballot was declared yesterday:

"Of course, I am disappointed not to have done better, but I have always respected the wisdom of the Parliamentary Labour Party and the friendship between the members and their various camps was strengthened rather than weakened as the election went on."

When asked what purpose was served by his staying in for the second ballot, he said: "To give the widest possible choice so that the man who finally won had the widest possible support."

He thought it had been worth fighting the election, but when asked whom he would vote for now he replied: "That is my own decision."

Did he think that Mr Foot should withdraw? "I think he should decide for himself."

When asked if he would be happy to stay on as Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Healey replied: "Very much so". Did he think Mr Callaghan would be hard to beat now? "I think so", he said.

Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, said the main feature of the second-ballot campaign had been the wide drawing power of Mr Foot, who was "a man who far transcends the original base within the party from which he developed".

He would not have been supporting Mr Foot, he said, had it not been for the qualities he had shown he would have as Prime Minister. It was not just a question of Mr Foot's experience as a departmental minister, but also of his work in the Shadow Cabinet and, since 1974, in the Cabinet.

Mr Shore said he believed that the party needed "to win people, to convert people, to say something to the people which really mattered".

At a press conference after the declaration, Mr John Cunningham, a member of Mr Callaghan's campaign team, was asked if there should be an election for the deputy leadership after the third ballot had settled the leadership.

He replied: "That is not a matter for us. It is a matter for the Parliamentary Labour Party. The deputy leadership is not in the gift of the party leader. It is subject to an election in the PLP. The party has a deputy leader, Mr Ted Short, and he remains in that post."

Leading article, page 15

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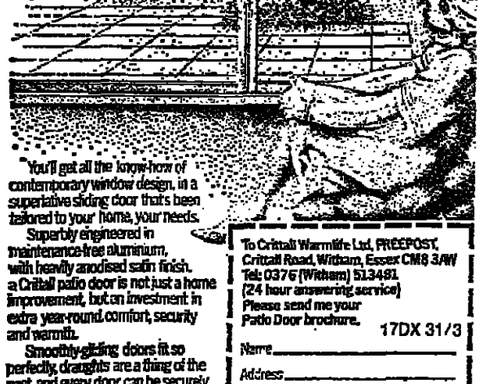

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HOME NEWS

Steady rise in total of prisoners paroled pleases board chief

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Two fifths of the prisoners whose cases were reviewed last year were granted parole, Sir Louis Petch, chairman of the Parole Board, disclosed yesterday.

Corresponding figures were 30.3 per cent in 1972, 31.5 per cent in 1973, and 32.8 per cent in 1974. Only 8 per cent were paroled in the early days of the scheme, he said.

Sir Louis, who was speaking at the annual meeting of the New Bridge, a prison after-care organization, said that the jump in 1975 might have owed something to the Home Secretary's move in August to extend the granting of parole.

But in any case 1975 would have shown "a substantial advance" on the previous year. He suggested that the rising figure reflected the growing confidence and experience of the Parole Board and local review committees. He added: "The figures now are to my mind as good as or better than we could have hoped for at this stage."

Referring to Mr Jenkins's view in August that the use of parole could be extended, Sir Louis said he could foresee an increase in the number of prisoners obtaining it.

During 1975, the cases of more than 10,000 prisoners were reviewed, and about four thousand of them were paroled. In 900 cases that was without reference to the Parole Board, as the Home Secretary could release offenders with shorter sentences on the recommendation of local review committees.

It had been suggested that the proportion of offenders recalled from parole for one reason or another could be used to judge whether the system was sufficiently ventursome. The recall rate was 8.1 per cent in 1972, 7.5 per cent in 1973, 7.7 per cent in 1974 and 8.2 per cent in 1975.

The rate was not a satisfactory measure of success on parole, Sir Louis said. It included only recalls during the licence period and omitted those paroled who had offended during their licence period if they were not charged with their crimes until later.

Moreover, the figure could take no account of the reasons for recall. In fact, roughly half of those recalled were brought back because they were out of couch, and only half because of the commission of a further crime.

"Within the latter group, there is no doubt that even though the public might tolerate an increase in the recall rate for petty crimes against property, they would take a very different view if more of the recalls were for violence against the person."

Short of an upset of the whole penal system, he did not think that there would be any move in Britain towards a more judicial procedure for the granting of parole.

"Thus I see parole remaining as a privilege, to be granted by administrative decision in the light of the prisoner's performance in custody and not as a right to be argued for by the prisoner or his representative before a court."

Campaign for coloured policemen does badly

By Clive Borrell

A £25,000 advertising campaign to recruit police officers from ethnic minorities living in Britain was described yesterday as disappointing by Sir Robert Mark, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, six months after the campaign was launched.

Since last October only 10 men and one woman have applied to join the force and only five are now left as "possible" entrants. Those who applied had roots in such countries as Kenya, West Indies, India, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Ghana. Of the 11, one withdrew his application, four failed to attend for interview and another failed a preliminary test.

Although few details of the remaining candidates are known, Scotland Yard hopes that the only woman applicant will persevere, for she speaks seven languages and has 10 O level and three A level certificates.

If she completes the course and is accepted into the force she will join the still small group of coloured officers working in London. At present there are 34 coloured men and six woman officers. Two of the men, a detective and a uniform branch man, have recently won competitive promotion examinations and will be made sergeants within the next few weeks.

Sir Robert, speaking at a press conference at Scotland Yard yesterday, was adamant that physical and educational standards would not be lowered in an attempt to recruit more coloured officers.

He said: "We shall persevere until we strike the right balance, but I do not believe that we will solve this situation by varying our standards.

"A police constable is a shock absorber between conflicting groups in a situation of tension, so he must be of high physical and educational standard. A man must be able to take care of himself in a potentially dangerous situation.

"Our real problem when it comes to recruiting officers from ethnic groups is one of communication. We have to overcome the disbelief that some minorities have of our sincerity.

"There are scores and scores of excellent black youngsters living in London and at our schools and we want them to consider trying a career in the police force. We will not take no for an answer."

Princess Margaret and her son, Lord Linley, visiting the Wolverhampton "Express and Star" office yesterday.

Reward for A2 gang raised to £25,000

Reward money for the capture of the A2 raiders, who on Saturday murdered Mr David Cross, a Securicor guard, and stole £102,000, rose to £25,000 yesterday when an insurance company offered £10,000.

Two cars left by the raiders were removed before the robbery by the police, unaware that the gang intended to use them, it was disclosed yesterday.

A passer-by saw two Ford Corrinas being parked in Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, about a mile from the robbery scene and was suspicious when the occupants left the keys in the cars. Det Supt Jim Smith, one of the officers leading the hunt for the five robbers, said.

The raiders' original escape car, a blue Austin three-litre, was found abandoned at the Plough public house, in North End Road, Erith.

Mr Smith said: "The gang must have stuck out like a sore thumb in the vehicle as they were carrying 14 sacks of money. We are appealing for witnesses to their overloaded vehicle."

Ban on non-NUJ journalists by trades councils

From Our Correspondent
Northampton

Trades councils at Kettering and Wellingborough, in Northamptonshire, have agreed to deal only with newspaper editorial staff who are members of the National Union of Journalists.

The decision came after a request by the Northamptonshire Association of Trades Councils, which passed a motion deploring press attacks on the union for attempts to set up a closed shop.

Now the county's four other trades councils, at Northampton, Corby, Daventry and East Northamptonshire, are to vote on the issue. Meanwhile the East Northamptonshire branch of the NUJ is supporting the move.

But the Northampton branch has rejected it, maintaining that it is an abuse to ban any bona fide journalist.

Minister rebukes MP over tale of IRA man at Yard

Mr Roy Jenkins, Home Secretary, yesterday criticized a fellow Labour MP for giving too much publicity to a report that a member of the Provisional IRA had infiltrated Scotland Yard's Special Branch.

Dismissing the report as "absolutely without foundation", he told Mr Robin Corbett, MP for Hemel Hempstead, that such false allegations could damage public morale in the present IRA bombing campaign.

Mr Corbett had asked him to investigate the allegation, which appeared in *Investors' Review*.

Mr Jenkins wrote to Mr Corbett that the report was "based on an old rumour, previously thoroughly investigated and previously denied.

"I would have hoped that at the present time you might have approached me in private rather than in public about this matter and only considered giving it publicity if the rumours were in any way subsequently confirmed."

It could do "grave damage to public morale at a time when the whole of the Metropolitan Police, including the Special Branch, are owed a considerable debt of public gratitude and support".

Mr Corbett last night accused the Home Secretary of giving a "petulant" reply. He wrote to Mr Jenkins: "I am not sure precisely how you divine the vintage of an allegation, but if this is one which, as you state, has been 'previously thoroughly investigated and previously denied' you might care to ask the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police why he did not choose to make this clear when the inquiry was made of him by the press.

"The commissioner could and should have firmly and earlier nailed the accusation for what you are now able to tell me it is—absolutely without foundation."

Ignorance 'could cost lives in bomb blasts'

Lives could be lost unnecessarily after a bomb explosion because too many people do not know how to react in an emergency, the British Red Cross Society said yesterday.

"Few people could forgive themselves if they had to stand around helpless after an explosion", Major-General John Gray, the society's chief medical officer said. "If passers-by know what to do, lives can be saved, but if they do not, the results will be far more horrible than they need be."

Too many people felt that they would be able to leave everything to the experts, but those experts could not necessarily be on the scene straight away and minutes could be vital.

In brief

No broadcast of Budget speech

Plans for a live radio broadcast next week of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget speech have been dropped by the Government after strong objections from Conservative leaders (our Political Staff writes).

A motion approving the broadcast from the chamber of the House of Commons would have to be passed by MPs before the BBC and the independent broadcasting authorities could go ahead, and the Government has decided not to put down such a motion.

Barrister's death 'misadventure'

A verdict of misadventure was recorded yesterday at the resumed inquest in London on Miss Jill Bannister, a barrister, who was found dead at the home of Mr Robert Flach, a deputy circuit judge.

Professor James Cameron, a pathologist, said there was an extremely high level of alcohol and drugs in Miss Bannister's body.

Man feared prosecution

Mr Harold Ernest Langley Piper, aged 83, of Woodside Park Road, Church End, Finchley, jumped to his death from a bridge on the M1 because he feared prosecution for shoplifting. He did not know it had been decided to drop the case, a Hornsey inquest was told yesterday. A verdict of suicide was recorded.

Actor divorced

Mrs Margaret Troughton, wife of Mr Patrick Troughton, aged 55, who was at one time Dr Who in the television series, was granted a decree nisi in the London Divorce Court yesterday because they had lived apart for more than five years.

Hospital reopens

Hillingdon Hospital, near Uxbridge, Middlesex, was reopened yesterday after being closed to admissions for 24 hours while the death of a man from straphylococcal pneumonia was investigated.

'Kitten' cheapest to run at 55·11 miles a gallon

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The 750cc Reliant Kitten lived up to its claim as the most economical production car in Britain by averaging 55.11 miles a gallon during the three-day 1,000-mile Total Economy Drive which ended in London Yesterday.

Driven by Mr Malcolm Young, aged 35, an accountant with Rolls-Royce in Derby, the Kitten achieved the best consumption of any car in the competition and took first place in its class for cars up to one litre capacity. A Volkswagen Polo (51.61 mpg) and a Fiat 127 (50.24 mpg) came second and third in that class.

A Mini Clubman averaging 50.72 mpg and driven by Mr Michael Stevens, a car dealer from Cheltenham, won the class for cars between 1001 and 1300cc, followed by a Vauxhall Chevette (45.77 mpg) and a Ford Escort Popular (44.93 mpg).

The winner of the 1301 to 1750cc section was a Honda Civic (45.51 mpg) with the driver, Mr Ashley Juniper of Chippenham, repeating his success in last year's event. A Chrysler Alpine (43.97 mpg) was second and a Volkswagen Golf (42.76 mpg) third.

A Morris Marina 1.8 entered by Leyland Cars and driven by Mr Stuart Bladon, deputy editor of *Autocar* magazine, won the over 1750 cc class with an average of 41.27 mpg. The runner-up was a Ford Escort RS2000 (40.93 mpg), and a Triumph Dolomite (40.78 mpg) came third.

A Chrysler Avenger GT, driven by Mr Ray Hancox, a Chrysler development engineer, won the modified cars section with an average of 46.20 mpg.

Budget demand

A demand for special help in the Budget for one-parent families was made yesterday by the National Council for One Parent Families.

Metropolitan areas 'basis for devolution'

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The metropolitan counties could form the basis for English regional government, according to Mr Robin McCall, who retires as secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities at the end of next month.

In an interview in the magazine *Municipal Review*, he says the metropolitan counties are not significantly smaller in population and resources than Wales. The average metropolitan county "could well turn out to be a stronger structure than a single Welsh national or regional authority, which with its North-South disparity will have internal conflicts on nearly every subject".

He believes there is nothing to prevent the continuation of the present metropolitan structure in a provincial role.

Mr McCall says that it is "quite manifest" that if some regional devolution of finance and economic and political decision-making is made to Scotland and Wales then the demand for some equivalent solution in England will be unavoidable.

"If that situation develops, it would be better to have a regional system based on directly elected local authorities than a regional tier of government which would be a weakening structure intervening between local authorities and Whitehall and Westminster.

"I cannot see why elected regional authorities cannot be the present metropolitan counties, with appropriate provision for joint committees or other joint consultative machinery on matters extending beyond the metropolitan boundaries."

Looking back on a career of 40 years in local government, including 25 years as town clerk of Winchester, Mr McCall says local government remains one of the few institutions that can argue their case from strength.

There was much that could be devolved to bureaucracy, but policy decisions were best made by elected people. "New priorities and new initiatives cannot be well organized in the modern world in the absence of some form of elected machinery", he says.

BBC wins three awards for television news

By a Staff Reporter

Three of the five British Television News Film of the Year awards for 1975, made by the Royal Television Society, have gone to the BBC. They were presented yesterday by Sir Geoffrey Cox, a director of Trident Television.

The winners were:

Portfolio and Cameraman of the Year: Peter Biggin, BBC Television News, for his entry "Belfast Rioting, Belfast Snipers and Peron Rally" (sound recordist, Roy Benford).

Regional news award: Roy Page, Southern Television, for "For the Love of Helen".

Hard news: Bill Nicol, BBC Television News, for "Cod War Confrontation" (sound recordist, Andy White).

News (team) award: David Brierley and Ron Hurrell, BBC Television News (North), for "Leeds Utd vs Manchester Utd" (sound recordists, Terry Meadowcroft and Chris Street).

News feature: William Brayne, Thames Television for "Revolt against the Communists", from *This Week* (sound recordist, Ron Thomas).

Harris weavers vote on future

Ballot papers which may decide the future of the ailing Harris tweed industry were received yesterday by the 550 self-employed weavers in the Outer Hebrides.

They are being asked to decide whether to accept plans for reorganizing the industry, the main proposal being the introduction of a double width power woven cloth instead of the traditional single width (29in) hand woven tweed.

Fire at 'Mail' office

The top floor of Northcliffe House, home of the *Daily Mail* and *Evening News* off Fleet Street, was damaged by fire yesterday.

Transport demands to fit the environment urged

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

Mr Gilbert, Minister for Transport, said yesterday that government priority must be to see that future transport efficiency was tempered with social and environmental considerations.

Addressing a transport conference of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, he said: "It has always been my view that a considerable part of public resistance to new roads reflects a hostility not so much to the roads but to the environmental aspects of the traffic. We have to make a major attack on the major environmentally offensive aspects of road transport of all types."

The minister's view will be reinforced today when Mr George Park, his parliamentary private secretary, tells the conference that a sense of balance between environment, safety considerations and the benefits of mobility must be achieved.

Mr Park says: "The days of rolling carpets of asphalt across our countryside are gone, but this does not mean that we should turn away from the car. It does not mean we should see public transport wither away and it does not mean block subsidies.

"I suggest it means a mixture of subsidy, of incentive, of provision for road, rail, car and passenger transport", he says.

Questioned by delegates yesterday about subsidies, Mr Gilbert said: "Nothing would please me more than to hold down bus fares for ever. But we have to be realistic about this. If you go on doing that there is less money available from the transport budget for investment."

He said he would like to see a national concessionary fares scheme, but there was a great range of such schemes in existence. They cost about £45m a year. Any introduction of a national scheme obviously involved the question of cost and there would be administrative difficulties.

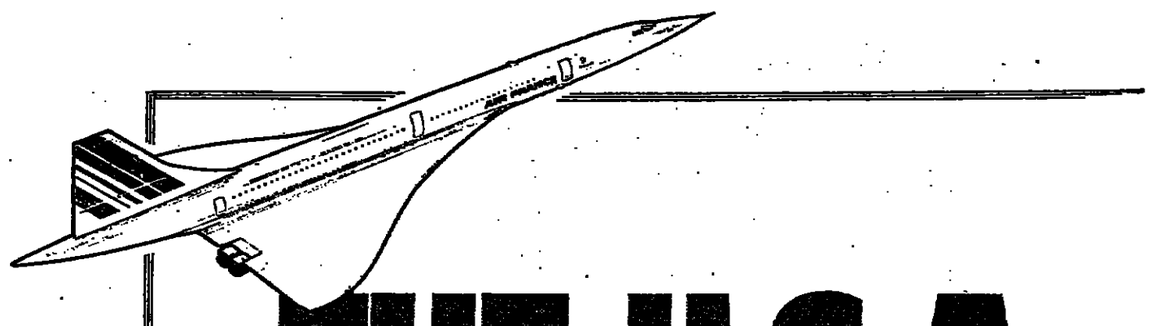
British Rail budget curbs 'will kill improvements'

Plans to peg British Rail's annual investment at this year's level of about £200m will kill off many projects designed to win new business and cut costs, Mr Paul Goldsack, editor of *Jane's World Railways*, says in his foreword to the latest edition.

He maintains that few nationalized railway systems are getting a fair deal from their governments. British Rail and German Federal Railways, for instance, have had their investment budgets cut to a minimum, "at a time when the only solution to a growing financial dilemma lies in improving railways' facilities".

In contrast to British Rail's £195.4m, French Railways are to spend about £525m, South Africa £481m, and Belgian National Railways, with less than a quarter of Britain's network, £281m.

Jane's points out that London's Underground system is to receive a capital improvement injection of £47.4m this year, while the Paris Metro network will get £274.7m.



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PARLIAMENT, March 30, 1976

Mr Wilson wants EEC to reject standardization of 'everything we eat, drink, buy and sell'

House of Commons

Labour MPs cheered as Mr Harold Wilson entered the chamber for his last question time exchanges as Prime Minister.

The first question to him concerned relations between the Government and the TUC, during which Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C) asked—As I understand the Prime Minister may now be resigning before the Budget, will he explain to the TUC and this House why his Government have increased the burden of taxation on the average worker's wage packet more than any other government in history? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Wilson (Huyton, Lab)—I have dealt with all these matters in my discussions with the TUC. They have been the subject of continuing discussion. We do have discussions rather than confrontation, which her government had with them. (Labour cheers.)

The one thing that Mrs Thatcher, with her total lack of gumption in all political matters, has exceeded even herself is in her attempt to interfere with union elections, which can only be counter-productive.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby, Lab)—On that point would he consult with the TUC on the involvement of political parties in trade union elections? (Conservative laughter.) It is thoroughly undesirable for the Communist Party, the Tory Party or any other party to be directly involved with trade union internal affairs.

It is a typical example of the cack-handed way in which the Tory Party treats the unions for it to be involved in this way.

Mr Wilson—While not associating myself with every adjective, all my discussions with the TUC, which have been useful and productive, have always been on serious matters, not on the frivolities of the Opposition.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C)—Is the Prime Minister prepared to advise his successor about the need for continual contact with this important element in our society, the TUC? Will he note some of the representations I have been making in the press about the need for the TUC to keep closely in contact with the Commons and Parliament generally?

Is there not a case for some reform of the structure of both Houses for such consultation?

Mr Wilson—Yes. I have always taken representations from Mr Crouch, whether in the House or ourside it, with seriousness. I am sure that the TUC recognize, as he has recognized, the great importance of the relationship which has been established between the Government and the trade union leadership. I agree with what he has said. It is important that they never lose sight of the importance of the responsibilities of this House.

Mr Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar, C) on the next question, asked if the Prime Minister would seek an early opportunity to go to Switzerland and there to discuss with Mr Alexander Solzhenitsyn his view of the state of Britain in 1976?

In the meantime (he added) would the Prime Minister comment on Mr Solzhenitsyn's view that during the period when Mr Wilson has been Prime Minister the standing of this country has descended to that of Romania or even Uganda?

Mr Wilson—As one who played, with other MPs and other people, quite a big part in trying to aid the release of Mr Solzhenitsyn I respect his right to say what he believes. It is a right which he enjoys now which he did not have before. I accept he has the right to say it. I do not have to agree with it. (Conservative cry of "It is based on experience".)

It is based on experience in the Soviet Union. He has no experience of this country. He is entitled to say it but I totally reject what he says about this country, and so do the vast majority of our fellow citizens.

If the Conservative Party think they have any gain to secure out of following what he says and exploiting it they will be proved badly wrong.

Mr Andrew Faulds (Warley, East, Lab)—Since the Prime Minister will be spending a good deal more time in the House, and since I have always been a 150 per cent Harold man, will he, instead of retreating to the traditional position below the gangway, come and join us up here on the back where although the view may be deplorable, the company is congenial? (Laughter.)

Mr Wilson—The company is congenial and I welcome his remarks. If he has always been a 150 per cent Harold Wilson man, for the first time I am beginning to understand what inflation means. (Loud laughter.) As one who has tried to help Mr Faulds in various capacities I hope to be able to continue to do so wherever I may be sitting.

Mr John Pardoe (North Cornwall, L)—Could he say whether there is a better managed economy than the Swiss economy in the western world? Does this have any connexion with two vital ingredients of the system, a greater degree of decentralization to the regions than any other country in Europe and a greater degree of power shared by all parties in government?

Mr Wilson—I am not sure whether Mr Pardoe would support all they have done in the past about equal rights for women. They do not carry any of the burden which we have cheerfully shouldered in the North Atlantic Alliance and Nato. They are a financial centre, a haven for many things.

I am so friendly to the Swiss at this and all other times that I will refrain from quoting the words of Harry Lime in *The Third Man* about their principal contribution to history.

During later questions about the Prime Minister's meeting with the French Prime Minister.

Mr Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead, Lab) said—When he next meets the French Prime Minister will he press upon him the urgent necessity to change completely the common agricultural policy before it degenerates into a further mess and sweeps the market away with it?

Mr Wilson—This matter was fully discussed in the recent meeting of the Council of Agricultural Ministers. The House will be aware of the line taken by the minister (Mr Peart). There is great concern on the part not only of the British Government but also the German Federal Chancellor and others about the extent to which this thing is developing.

There have already been preliminary discussions, which I hope will be followed up in the European Assembly, about long overdue reforms and economies and what I hope will be the long overdue rejection of this system of total standardization of everything we eat, drink, buy and sell. (Cheers.)

The strength of the European Community and Europe should be in the diversity of our cultures which we all have to contribute and not standardized uniformity. (Renewed cheers.)

Mr Neil Marten (Banbury, C)—If he sees the Prime Minister of France, would he reflect the views of the British people, as very much in line with the Gaullist policy that if the Common Market continues to develop it should develop on the lines of Europe des patries?

As it is now 3.30 pm could I congratulate the Prime Minister on the dexterity with which he has tried to answer—not always successfully—questions in this House? (Laughter.)

Mr Wilson—I am grateful for his concluding remarks. He has always been most courteous though you, Mr Speaker, are the custodian of the stopwatch in this House.

I and the Government have nothing in common, nor will there at any future time, in my estimation, with the Gaullist doctrine in these matters. We have sought to reform the Market from within. This is a different stimulus than the negative position taken by President de Gaulle for a long time.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C)—Before he leaves office, would the Prime Minister reconfirm his total commitment to ensuring the success of the Anglo-French Concorde project and consider inviting his successor, whoever he may be, to take an early flight in the aircraft?

Mr Wilson—The answer to the first part is "Yes". The answer to the second part is "yes" because I have recently had an invitation.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab)—Do the Government maintain their opposition to the dangerous proposal for a joint Anglo-French nuclear force which would ultimately mean a German finger on the nuclear trigger? Will the Government maintain that opposition even if France should rejoin Nato?

Mr Wilson—Not at any time as Prime Minister have I heard any suggestions of an Anglo-French joint nuclear capability. I do not believe it has ever been put forward during the period of the Conservative Government either.

If it were to be put forward, if it had been put forward during my premiership I would have totally rejected it. I cannot think President Giscard would have been interested in the idea either. It is not a runner.

I cannot imagine any Prime Minister or any Government accepting this, quite apart from the warnings Mr Allaun gave and which I gave many years ago about the dangers of leaving the German finger on the nuclear trigger.

Health and Safety Commission to undertake wide ranging review of risks associated with asbestos

The Health and Safety Commission has decided to set up a committee to undertake a review of the health risks associated with asbestos, Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, said in a statement. This follows criticism of the factory inspectorate by the Parliamentary Commissioner over its action at Acre Mill, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire.

Mr Foot said: The Parliamentary Commissioner's report on his investigation into the enforcement of the Factories Act at Acre Mill has given rise to serious public concern. Although the Parliamentary Commissioner recognized that responsibility for complying with the Factories Act and the Asbestos Regulations rested with the occupier of the factory, he made several criticisms of the action of my department and of the factory inspectorate. These I accept.

The Health and Safety Commission and its executive, of which the factories inspectorate is now a part, will study the report closely and, if anything still remains to be put right, this will be done.

I would emphasize to the House that the report relates to the circumstances at Acre Mill between 1969 and 1970. The position has changed radically in the years since then. New regulations to control the health risk from asbestos came into force in 1970, backed by stringent hygiene standards for the control of asbestos dust. These regulations are being rigorously enforced by the factories inspectorate, who are currently instructed to make special visits to all firms subject to the Asbestos Regulations.

Fifty-one firms have been successfully prosecuted for 120 contraventions of the regulations. Effective use is also being made of the new powers given to the executive under the Health and Safety at Work Act since the beginning of 1975. Sixty-six prohibition notices and 15 improvement notices have been imposed on 45 firms to remedy hazards involving asbestos.

More than 150,000 copies of a leaflet *Asbestos and You* have been distributed to workers in the industry; 193,000 copies of technical data notes on asbestos have been distributed free, and 27,500 copies of an on sale booklet *Asbestos Health Precautions in Industry*. Guidance is also to be issued shortly on the problem of dust arising from the use of sprayed asbestos in buildings. A labelling scheme for consumer products is being introduced.

In 1971, work started on a long-term medical environmental survey of asbestos workers. This survey is intended to obtain more information about the medical effects of asbestos exposure and to measure the effectiveness of dust control methods for the protection of workers.

I have discussed the present position with the chairman of the Health and Safety Commission and the director of the Health and Safety Executive. I have every confidence in the way they, and the factory inspectors throughout the country, are carrying out their responsibilities.

However, we still do not know all we need to know about the health risks from asbestos, including risks to the public and the causes of mesothelioma (cancer of the pleura). The Health and Safety Commission, by agreement with ministers concerned, has therefore decided to set up a committee to undertake a wideranging review of the health risks from asbestos and to make recommendations on any further action which, in their view, ought to be taken.

The chairman of the commission, Mr Simpson, will himself act as chairman of the new committee, whose membership will be announced in due course. Interested Government departments, including the central unit of environmental pollution, will be closely involved in the work of the committee.

The composition of the committee will reflect a wide range of scientific, medical and practical expertise and will include representatives from both sides of industry.

The committee will have the following terms of reference:

To review the risks to health arising from exposure to asbestos or products containing asbestos including: persons exposed at work; members of the public exposed to asbestos generated from work activities; and members of the public exposed to asbestos from consumer products and from asbestos waste.

To make recommendations as to whether any further protection is required.

The committee's terms of reference enable it to cover all risks from asbestos including its release into the working and general environment and either to satisfy itself that present safeguards are adequate or to make recommendations on how improvements should be made.

The report of the committee will be published and considered by the Health and Safety Commission and ministers responsible for the matters reviewed.

I wish, in conclusion, to thank Mr Max Madden (Sowerby, Lab) whose skill and persistence in raising this matter has been of such importance for his own constituents and for many others besides.

Mr James Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—I welcome the setting up of the committee of inquiry. Will it sit in public or in private? On the whole, we believe that the public will want to be kept fully informed of the activities of the inquiry.

The standard for fibres per cc of air in our regulations is two per cc, whereas in the United States it is half a fibre per cc. Does Mr Foot think that our regulations are tightly enough drawn, in view of what has happened and will he ask the inspectorate to satisfy itself on that?

Is he satisfied with the long-term environmental and public health service? There is a great deal of anxiety about other forms of dust as well, and the need to try to reach a simple control mechanism for assessing the quantity of dust in the atmosphere at any time. Could more work be done on that?

There is a disturbing report that the inspectors always notified when they were likely to go to premises, instead of making off-the-record inspections which are always more effective and keep people on their toes.

Mr Foot—Criticisms were made in evidence to the Parliamentary Commissioner about factories being informed about visits of inspectors but I do not think much proof was given.

However, the practice is certainly different now and almost entirely, except in very exceptional circumstances, visits are not made on that basis and no prior information is given.

Making forms of control simple is a matter which will be considered in the recommendations to be made by the committee.

On the point about the comparison of the strictness of regulations here and in the United States, as I understand it, although I may be incorrect, there has been a proposal in the United States for more stringent regulations but it is not yet adopted. It would be preeminently a matter for the committee to recommend whether there should be a tightening of the regulations.

The findings of the committee will be published as will the evidence, and I will consider whether the proceedings should be in public. I should like to take into account what the Health and Safety Commission have to say on the subject.

Mr Max Madden (Sowerby, Lab)—Public concern which undoubtedly exists about the dangers associated with asbestos can only be satisfactorily dealt with by a wholly independent public inquiry which takes evidence in public, publishes evidence, and publishes a full report.

It is of paramount importance that more stringent controls be introduced for the use of asbestos, for workers using this material and for the public at large.

This report calls into question the overall reorganization of the inspectorate on a highly centralized basis.

Many of us fear it will lead to strings of Acre Mills up and down the country.

Will Mr Foot consider making another statement soon because public concern is mounting quickly?

Mr Foot—I will undertake to make a statement at an early date because we shall have to make an announcement about the other members of the commission. As for the view that centralization of the inspectorate organizations, in so far as they have been centralized, will injure the possibilities of dealing with the matter, I would not agree. If the regulations we have under the Health and Safety at Work Act and the commission had been in operation, many of the dangers might have been avoided. That should be taken into account.

The House and country should take into account that a series of measures have been taken to try to make regulations more stringent since those terrible things occurred.

At present we think our proposed inquiry is the best way to go about it, but we are prepared to consider any representations, especially from Mr Madden.

Mr John Mendelson (Penistone, Lab)—This highlights the need for self-regulatory processes built into the surveillance of industry so there should not be any need to call on the Ombudsman to have anything to do with these matters. Mr Foot should condemn those responsible for a situation which made the appeal to the Ombudsman necessary.

Mr Foot—I understand his point but if this matter had not been referred to the Ombudsman, a committee would have been set up and there would have been an examination under the legislation we have established. It has been beneficial that it went to Sir Alan Marre, as things have happened.

Mr Thomas Urwin (Houghton-le-Spring, Lab)—What steps does Mr Foot propose to ensure that employers encourage people to become more learned in the dangers of handling asbestos? Is the strength of the Factory Inspectorate adequate to deal with the problems arising from the use of this material?

Mr Foot—Under the Health and Safety Act there is a much stricter obligation on employers to inform workers about the situation. That makes the situation different from what it was when these tragic events occurred. We are eager to increase the strength of the Factory Inspectorate in so far as we have the resources.

Elections in 1978 'if the will is there'

Sir Peter Kirk (Saffron Walden, C), chairman of the joint British and Danish Conservative group at the European Parliament, resuming the debate on direct elections to the European Assembly, said that it had been for many years the view of people who might be called loosely idealists that some kind of international forum to deal with the problems between nation states was of great importance.

There had never before been a proposal for elections to an international assembly or parliament with power to act in certain cases. However, limited that power might be, it was a new and radical departure from anything known until now.

The European Parliament as it existed did not use to the full the powers it possessed. It was perfectly capable of developing more control of the executive. He would like the power of codetermination or the right of Parliament to legislate alongside the Council of Ministers to be strengthened. At least he would like to see the process of conciliation between Parliament and the Council, successful in budgetary matters, extended to deal with general legislative matters.

It was the one international parliamentary body that possessed even a modest element of power and if it had power it must have responsibility. That responsibility could only be given by a directly-elected Parliament.

Considerable doubt had been cast on the possibility of having direct elections in the spring of 1978, but if the will was there it could be done. If they did not meet the date laid down by the heads of Government, the responsibility would rest upon those heads of Government.

The present situation of the European Parliament was a nonsense and should be cleared up as soon as possible. There could not be a decision on the site until a decision had been made on the elections. The MPs could continue with the present travelling circus, but they would rather not. All MPs would rather move to Brussels as soon as they could.

The optimum figure for membership of the European Parliament at this moment when they were faced with the possibility of four new countries joining the EEC within the next 10 years, was between 300 and 400. The Parliament had settled on a compromise figure of about 350. It was a compromise on the wrong basis because it made the mistake of putting forward a formula which assisted the small countries at the expense of the big ones.

What they should be contemplating for the European Parliament was a figure which had to be irreducible. They could build on it, but it would not be possible to reduce it.

There was no prospect whatsoever of the work in the European Parliament diminishing. It was likely to increase, and the dual mandate meant that English members were spending on average two or three days a week out of the country. This was something they could not tolerate compulsorily forever.

The Home Secretary should say something about the franchise and whether all EEC citizens were going to be entitled to vote where they happened to live. This would mean French, Germans or Italians with residential qualifications in this country would be entitled to be included on the electoral role in this country for the purpose of European elections.

Then there was the question of finance, not only paying for the elections but the financing of political parties. This was a matter upon which there were two minds on the Opposition side. They did not like the idea of a state subvention but on the other hand it seemed unlikely that they would be able to get the candidates who could afford to stand unless there was some kind of subvention.

He did not know whether it was too late to refer this to the Houghton Committee. If so he hoped the select committee would look at this as well.

He had been described as an out-and-out federalist. It was a title in which he would be prepared to glory. He was and he had never disguised the fact. Equally he was a realist and knew perfectly well, as did other MPs who shared his views, that this would not come overnight, probably not in his lifetime or even in that of his children.

He would work towards a federal solution for Europe but Europe would get its own solution, in its own time and in its own way as it always had done. The remarkable thing about the Community which came through again and again if one studied its 25 years' history was its natural growth.

Falkland Islands

Mr Edward Rowlands, Under-Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said in a written reply—Lord Shackleton hopes to complete the report of his economic survey of the Falkland Islands by the end of April. The report will be published.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on defence. Motion on Fiduciary Note Issue (Extension of Period) Order.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Debate on universities in the United Kingdom. Motion on Docks and Harbours (Rateable Values) Order. Debatable question on prevention of rabies.

Britain should take up fight for a democratic Europe—Mr Jenkins

Mr Roy Jenkins, Home Secretary (Birmingham, Stechford, Lab) said that as late entrants they shared with Denmark the derogation which would enable them to continue for a time with nomination after others had gone over to election. The right was there, but there would be a heavy disadvantage in having to fall back upon it.

The strain upon the system there, as upon the individuals concerned, of having to provide from 60 to 70 or even as many as 80 nominees from Westminster would be almost insupportable. There would be the further disadvantage of giving Britain's representatives, even for an interim period, something that would inevitably be near to that of a second class status.

The British people would also be deprived for a time of the right to vote directly when the citizens of other members of the Community were already exercising it. Finally, hanging back, particularly if unnecessarily, would give some credence to the undesirable concept of a two-tier Community.

Despite late entry Britain's difficulties over direct elections were no greater than those of some at least of the original member-states. He hoped they could all manage 1978, but it was even more important that they should not be laggards. There was no need for this. They should try to move together on this, whatever the date.

That was not to say that there were not considerable technical problems to resolve and some problems which were more than technical. There was the question of the allocation of seats which would obviously have to be negotiated between governments but upon which the views of the House were of great importance.

There were others much more within their own direct control. The select committee could be a most useful and thorough means of resolving them, but it should not be seen as a device for delay.

There would be many fewer and much larger constituencies than for Westminster. It would be appropriate in ordinary circumstances for the parliamentary Boundary Commissions to be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations about the boundaries of the Assembly constituencies in accordance with principles and procedures laid down by Parliament in legislation.

If (he continued) we are to be ready by 1978 or even 1979, and perhaps even 1980, I would estimate it is probable that special arrangements for drawing the initial boundaries will be needed. Parliament could give the parliamentary Boundary Commissions greatly simplified terms of reference for this purpose which would enable them to draw up provisional boundaries for the first elections very quickly.

Alternatively, it could be that the only way of drawing up constituencies in time for the first direct elections to be held by the target date would be for Parliament itself to consider the appropriate arrangements in the course of its consideration of the Bill.

In any event Parliament or the Boundary Commission, in order to meet the target date, would have to use groupings of existing electoral units. It could be a grouping of parliamentary constituencies, or of local authority areas. There was no divine right on either side of the choice but it was clearly important and in that, as in other matters, they would take full account of the views expressed in the debate as well as of the guidance of the select committee.

The franchise for parliamentary elections was based on a canvass of those resident in the United Kingdom on a qualifying date, at present October 10 each year, of British citizens and those of the Irish Republic resident in Britain.

Peers could not vote but did in local government elections and Parliament had agreed that they should be eligible to vote in the referendum on the EEC.

In general (he said) it would appear right that peers should be eligible to vote and to stand in the elections for the European Assembly.

Citizens of other member states were unable to vote in parliamentary and local government elections, their names were not on the register, and there were other questions of principle and practice to be taken into account in deciding whether they should be entitled to vote in the direct elections. Even if the principle were accepted it might not be easy to overcome the practical difficulties for construction of a suitable electoral register in time for 1978. That did not mean they could not proceed on roughly the present basis for 1978 and refine it later.

The question whether British citizens resident abroad should have a vote was part of a wider issue which the Government hoped would be included in the terms of reference of a reconvened Speaker's Conference.

There would be advantage in trying to hold the elections at or about the same time as those in the other member states. This would, for instance, bring a greater sense of cohesion and definition of the issues involved. There could also be some value in linking the elections with domestic elections, perhaps those of local authorities. This could provide an added initial impetus to voters' interest. But they should realize that the issues involved would be quite different.

There is a fear in some quarters (he said) that by introducing direct elections we may impair the sovereignty of this Parliament. I regard this as something of a miser's view of sovereignty, of a little store of gold, taken out and looked at from time to time and then wrapped up and put back again. This is not my view of it because I am more concerned with influence upon our own destiny and influence for good in the world of the British people.

Parliament was overburdened with work which had increased in recent decades. They should not be worried about sharing some of that burden because MPs would do their own job better if they were not unduly jealous of letting others assist.

In Britain, as in the rest of the Community, there was a general acceptance, underpinned by the massive referendum majority, that the prosperity and future security of the people were better served by membership than by trying to stand alone.

He understood the fears of those in Britain and Europe who complained about Brussels bureaucracy and lack of power in Strasbourg, but for Europe's sake they should try the logical and positive conclusion and take up the fight for a democratic Europe, responsive to the needs of the people. The people of the Community had bound themselves one to another. They looked for leadership and a common purpose.

Immense, decisive shift of power

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, UUUC) said the very fact of direct elections brought about an immense and decisive shift of power and control from the British Parliament to the European Parliament.

The national electorate would forfeit power by the existence of direct elections. There could not be a more thorough-going political revolution than was implicit in the inauguration of direct elections.

The majority of MPs did not wish the Commons to part with its political sovereignty and the electorate did not wish to part with its independence, yet that was the decision to be taken.

Miss Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich, West, Lab) said that the first past the post electoral system was the only practical and sensible one to be used in the early years. The first election should be in the spring of 1978.

European members should have access to a joint scrutiny committee of the two Houses of Parliament, especially if that body were subdivided into committees which roughly matched the continental system of the European Parliament and directorates of the European Commission.

The European Parliament would only win limited powers in time, not at the expense of Westminster, but the EEC Commission and Council of Ministers. The British people should have closer democratic control over the so-called faceless men of Brussels.

Mr David Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L) said it was essential not to conduct the Assembly elections on a first past the post basis. This was not a matter exclusively of interest to the Liberal Party. The first past the post system gave a swift and decisive result but it was a crude system of election.

They were used in this country to the hard fact that in local government many splendid councillors in all parties lost their seats not because of any wickedness on their part or demerit on the part of the local authority but because their party nationally happened to be going through a bad patch at the time of the elections. It would be difficult to export that to a European level.

Mr Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test, Lab) said these elections and a directly elected Assembly made sense only in the context and as a first step towards European union. The democratization argument was dangerous because it diverted attention from Britain's only chance of expanding democracy in the Community, for example, by developing her own powers of control over her own ministers so that they were responsible to the House for their actions in Brussels.

Mr John Davies (Knutsford, C) said the Community needed a correctly-elected Assembly as soon as possible if it was to go forward and not stagnate in ways which many like him had found it stagnating lately.

He had always felt that Community membership was a specific and clear decision to shift a major area of legislation and policy making activity into a united European group from a national one. It did not undermine one group to ensure that the other had validity.

Mr John Mendelson (Penistone, Lab) said he would vote against direct elections at a suitable opportunity because it was a deliberate step in the direction of breaking up the unity of Britain.

Mr Raphael Tuck (Watford, Lab) said that elections were fights over policy. Was there a Conservative, Labour or Liberal policy in European matters? What were the issues which could be put before the electorate? There did not appear to be any. The whole thing was a tragic farce.

Mr George Cunningham (Islington, South and Finsbury, Lab) said there had been references in the debate to the prospect of federalism in the EEC. What on earth did MPs think they had now?

We have fundamentally (he said) a federal system in the Community, where some decisions are taken at the centre and some are left to the constituent parts; a preordained distinction is drawn between the things which will be approved centrally and separately.

Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (Kettering, Lab) said within 10 years of the first elections the Government should insist on redistribution of the seats. Six could be given to every country and thereafter seats in proportion to the population.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Opposition spokesman on Europe (Mid-Oxon, C) said if as was probably likely, a directly elected European Parliament was dissatisfied with its powers, it could not grab new powers, but would have to ask for them. National governments would have to seek approval of national parliaments because further amendment of the Treaty of Rome would be involved. That was a more substantial safeguard than had been recognized.

The Council of Ministers and the European Council it had created were essentially the decision-makers of the Community. So long as that was a fact, the role of the Commons acting on those Councils was crucial. If they were dissatisfied, as they should be, at the way they executed that role, they should concentrate on doing that task better.

The message had come out of the debate, cautiously, that Britain should prepare thoroughly and take her time to get the thing right, but that Parliament would do its job to ensure that when direct elections were held Britain would be there with her full participation and support.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab) said what they had to accept as permanent members of the EEC was that the unity worked on compromise and cooperation and they accepted the principle of direct elections when Britain joined. To seek now to deny this by a perversely legalistic interpretation of their commitment would damage the good name of the Government in the EEC and severely erode their ability to influence other events.

At Westminster their powers were undefined because in theory their powers were infinite. The other member states had written constitutions. The Treaty of Rome created by six of the present nine member states reflected this. The European Parliament could do what the treaty said and no more unless additional powers were expressly approved by the Nine. The powers were there in writing for everyone to see. They were explicit and precise.

The federalist bogey was wholly unrealistic. He could not accept that by strengthening any of the institutions of the European Community they were automatically diminishing themselves.

In his judgement for the foreseeable future power within the Community would remain within the Council of Ministers. He wanted to give the Assembly adequate authority to perform the tasks that the Council gave it, but that was not the same as wanting a major transfer of power from the Council of Ministers to the Assembly. That was not his wish and it was not his view of what the future held.

The debate concluded.

Nato ready for surprise attack

House of Lords

Lord Paget of Northampton (Lab), asking the Government for a statement on Nato's vulnerability to surprise attack said his question arose from an article in *The Times* (March 15) disclosing a Nato leak as to the vulnerability of the forces in Germany.

The article considered the difficulties that might arise from the fact that the President of the United States, whose consent was necessary before tactical nuclear weapons could be used, might be asleep while invading divisions advanced.

But (he said) the idea that you could use these nuclear weapons would be absurd.

The Americans had said in the SALT agreement they were not going to accept the incineration of their country for anything that happened in Europe and there was no deterrent left. The military capacity of the Warsaw Pact was much enlarged and Nato morale had disappeared.

Few German businessmen had not made arrangements as to what they were going to do, and how they were going to be accepted, when the east moved in. There would be no resistance there. In France the working class movement was controlled by the communists and the communist-socialist alliance looked likely to provide the next president.

He would like to see the Nato alliance wound up as quickly as possible because an obviously unenable military posture was not a deterrent but an incitement. Britain was not being defended by Nato or by any American threat of nuclear retaliation because there was none. They were defended by the fact that those in the Kremlin had the feeling that they had as many people as they could manage and did not want more.

He did not believe the Russians would wish to interfere with a resolute people who were prepared to defend themselves and who were not needlessly provocative. Britain should recognize that Nato had ceased to be a viable alliance and ceased to be a source of security.

We should (he said) get out of these dangerous entanglements. We should train our people to defend themselves.

The country, he added, should be a community imbued with the idea of defending independence. That would be a deterrent to any invader.

Lord Strathcona (C) said he could not understand the suggestion that they should wind up the Nato alliance.

It is still (he said) the best we have got.

In studying the reports they must retain a balance. If they overdid the crying out about weaknesses they might be in danger of provoking precisely the response they were anxious to avoid. A potential aggressor might be tempted into thinking that he could attack the west with impunity.

Lord Winterbottom, Lord in Waiting, said the subject had come to prominence when *The Times* featured two articles, one by Lord Chalfont, based on a report prepared by a senior officer in Nato forecasting all sorts of alarming consequences in the event of a surprise attack on Nato.

The articles (he said) came as a far greater surprise to Nato than any military attack is likely to be.

Neither the Government nor Nato accepted all that was alleged in *The Times* articles. Some of what Lord Chalfont had written was true, given the assumptions he had made. Any attacker who could gain complete surprise was likely to get an advantage and make inroads into the territory of his opponent. That would be the same in the incredible event of a Nato attack on Warsaw Pact. The articles assumed the utter incapability of Nato's response.

Nato recognized the possibility of a surprise attack and deployed at all times forces which were ready to counter any attack. It was part of Nato strategy to do so.

Before the Warsaw Pact could assemble its forces Nato would be alerted and the surprise element removed. The articles also implied that western leaders and the United States President in particular would not be able to take speedy decisions after an attack had begun. The Government did not accept these assumptions, nor had a leading article in *The Times* the day after the reports appeared.

The Government had confidence in the flexible response strategy of Nato to any Warsaw Pact attack. Nato could deploy conventional theatre, nuclear, and strategic nuclear forces. Each of those forces had a specific role in countering any particular type of aggression.

In the circumstances postulated by *The Times* articles Nato would be prepared to use its conventional theatre and nuclear forces. It would be wrong to suppose that Nato would be unable to do so because an attack came with little warning, or because it came at an inconvenient time of day or time of the year.

The debate was concluded.

The Freshwater and Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill and the Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill were read a second time.

House adjourned, 6.7 pm.

Two changes in Ombudsman Act sought

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) was given leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Commissioner Act, 1967. The Bill sought to make two changes.

The first related to the method of appointment of the Ombudsman himself. The power of appointing him was vested in the Prime Minister and he was under no obligation to consult either the select committee, the chairman of the select committee or Parliament itself before making the appointment despite that appointment being crucial to the House of Commons to which the Ombudsman was responsible.

The Bill would require future appointments to be made only after the Prime Minister had consulted the chairman of the select committee and after both Houses had given their approval to the appointment by affirmative resolution.

The second proposed change related to the right of the Ombudsman to gain access to the minutes of Cabinet meetings and of their committees.

It would require the production of Cabinet documents to the Ombudsman when investigating an allegation of maladministration as a result of which a citizen had suffered injustice except in those cases where the Attorney General certified that such disclosures would be prejudicial to the security of the state.

The Bill was read a first time.

Parental scale on net income sought

Mr John Hannam (Exeter, C) asked the Secretary of State for Education and Science if his department had made any estimates as to the cost of phasing out parental contributions to the student grant, in conjunction with the abolition of the parental tax allowance on students in full-time higher education.

Mr Gerald Fowler, Minister of State (The Wrekin, Lab)—The estimated cost for 1974-75 was about £27m. It would be more now.

Mr Hannam—Some one-third of parents are unable or unwilling because of inflation to make up their contribution to the level of the student grant. In view of the age of majority being 18, would he consider it reasonable that all students should receive the basic grant?

Mr Fowler—I can see no early prospect of abolishing parental contributions. I have a great deal of sympathy with what Mr Hannam said. Conservative MPs, while calling for reductions in public expenditure, are constantly making specific proposals for increasing it.

Mr Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab)—There are many serious anomalies which arise on parental contributions. There is a great deal of hardship for students whose parents are not prepared to meet their full obligations but there is also hardship for parents who pay the full fees for their children out of already taxed income.

Mr Fowler—I agree. My department has more than once under this administration and previous administrations, asked local education authorities to emphasize to parents the importance of paying their contribution in full.

Mr Ronald Bell (Beaconsfield, C)—Would he look at this more sympathetically? The criteria upon which this was based have now changed owing not only to inflation but to taxation.

Would he consider at least making the parental scale one based on net income instead of gross income?

Mr Fowler—That would be extremely difficult to do. Tax matters are for the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Otherwise we do try to take into account, in the annual review of students grants changes in the relative income of parents as well as general inflation.

Grammar stream within the comprehensives

Mr John Stonehouse (Walsall, North, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Education and Science if it was his policy to allow grammar streaming in comprehensive schools.

Mr Gerald Fowler, Minister of State (The Wrekin, Lab)—Subject to the articles of government, the internal organization of any school is a matter for the professional judgment of the teachers in that school.

Mr Stonehouse—His answer will be generally welcomed bearing in mind that all that matters is the welfare and progress of the students. Will he ensure that where headmasters decide that there must be a grammar streaming within their comprehensive school, no ministry or committee will interfere?

Mr Fowler—The present Education Bill does not affect the internal organization of schools. I regard experiments with mixed ability teaching as having a great deal from which we can learn about future organization, but there will be no attempt to impose any form of internal organization on any school.

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, Lab)—Does he mean the Government have no view of banding, setting or streaming in comprehensive schools?

Mr Fowler—No. Banding is not a question of internal organization. It is a matter which concerns conditions for entry to a school. With regard to streaming and setting, the Government have no view.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab)—Though his answer represents the situation now, many think grammar streams in comprehensives are anomalous and educational thinking is moving steadily against streaming in comprehensive schools.

Mr Fowler—I accept that.

Mr Rhodes Boyson (Brent, North, C)—Many parents are concerned about non-ability teaching or all-ability teaching in certain comprehensives, bearing in mind particularly statements about falling standards, including that on mathematics by the University Grants Committee last week.

Mr Fowler—I noted with sorrow what they felt bound to say about the teaching of mathematics. We hope more children will keep on mathematics to a higher level in school and that the average standard of mathematical ability with which they leave school will improve.

That does not alter my view that experiments in mixed ability teaching, like those at Banbury, not least with the lower age ranges in secondary education, have proved a particular success.

Pursuer is unable to say positively that Peter Hain was thief

Mr Timothy Hayne, a bank countant, who pursued a thief o snatched £490, said at the ntral Criminal Court yester- y that the complexion of ter Hain, president of the ung Liberals, resembled that the man he pursued.

Mr Hayne said the skin louring resembled the inted" complexion of the n he had chased along streets Putney, London, on October last. He added: "I was not a state of mind to remember features of the face pro- rly."

Mr Hayne had said he recog- ed Mr Peter Hain on an ntification parade a few days er the theft but was unable say positively that Mr Hain s the thief.

Mr Hain, aged 25, of Fawe rk Road, Putney, denies atching a £490 bundle of £5 es from the counter of rclays Bank in Upper Rich- nd Road, Putney, after ask- for change for a £10 note.

Mr Hayne said he recognized Hain in the identification up as a man he had seen television with political ivities. He knew when he rt to the identification ade that Mr Hain had been ested.

Mr Lewis Hawser, QC, for the ence, said: "Did you use the rd 'Egyptian' as a way of cribing his appearance?" Hayne said he thought he ht have done.

Earlier, in reply to Mr sser, Mr Hayne said his ression on the day was that man was dark skinned, med, really", he said. He lified his remarks at the e because "dark skinned" ht mean Jamaican or some- g like that.

e thought the man "might e been a little Spanish, that of thing. At the time I ld not put a finger on it but ew he was not British."

Mrs Eileen Cooper, an in- ance clerk, said Mrs Lucy nes, a cashier, cashed a que for her. She was count- her money when she heard Haines shout and saw a walking quickly out of the k. She saw the man's face.

a statement to the police described the thief as being ut 23 years old, 5ft 10in of slim build, with sharp ures, a dark complexion, ar-length hair and glasses. thought he was perhaps not lish.

e attended an identification ide three days after the rob- . She added: "I was so id, I do not think I took h notice at all, I was so tered."

She made a statement after the parade saying the third man from the right, Mr Hain, was "probably" the thief. She agreed with Mr Hawser that she only caught a glimpse of the thief as he left the bank. She had read in newspapers the day before the identification parade about Mr Hain being arrested. She did not know who Mr Hain was.

Miss Karon Shepherd, aged 19, also a cashier at the bank, said that on the day of the robbery she saw a man staring at her through a window opening on to the street. He returned several times before switching to another window, where he stared at Mrs Haines.

Later she saw the man in the bank. She added: "I carried on serving my customers and the next thing I noticed was him dashing out of the bank and Mrs Haines shouting."

On October 27 she picked a man she thought was the thief out of an identification parade. It was not Peter Hain.

Mrs Bruna Conti, a securities clerk at the bank, said she attended an identification parade on October 27, but had been unable positively to identify a man she had seen running down Putney High Street.

Damian Keady, aged 12, one of the boys who joined in the pursuit of the thief, said he was quite sure about his identification of the man.

Mr Corkery asked: "How sure or unsure are you about the man in the car being the man you had chased?" The boy replied: "Quite sure. I think he is the same man."

The boy said that shortly after the chase ended, he and his friends had seen a man go into W. H. Smith's bookshop. They thought they recognized him as the thief and took the number of his Volkswagen. The prosecution said the number was that of Mr Hain's car.

Mr Corkery asked: "How did his clothes appear to tie up with the clothes of the man you had been chasing?" The boy replied: "His jeans and his shirt were the same."

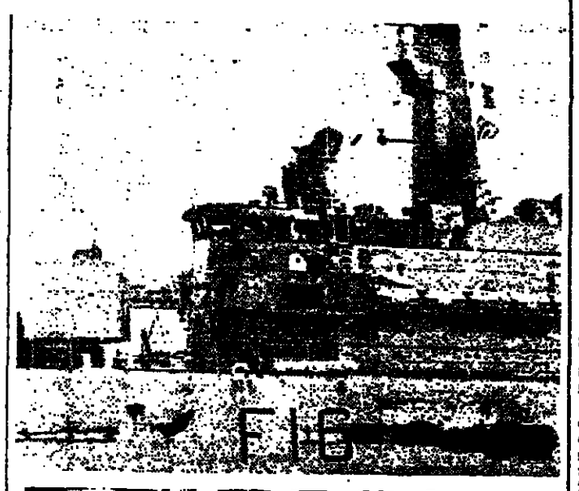
He said he and his three friends followed the man into the shop and one boy, John Brewster, noted the car number, YLN 296G.

Mr Hawser suggested that a fourth boy in the group, Terry Maclaren, had said the man who went into the shop was nothing like the man they chased. Damian Keady replied that Terry Maclaren had been the first to say it was the same man. Terry did not go with them to the police.

Mr Hawser suggested that one of the boys had said something like: "Come on, we can miss the afternoon off school and get a lift back in the police car."

Damian Keady said: "I did not hear anyone mention that. Nobody mentioned anything about missing the afternoon off school. We were back in school at about three o'clock." The boy denied several times that he had been untruthful in his evidence.

The trial continues today.



Above: the Diomede's holed port side. Below: Captain Robert McQueen inspecting the damage to her interior.

Frigate damaged in cod war limps back home

From Our Correspondent
Dunfermline

The frigate HMS Diomede, whose wardroom was badly damaged in a cod war incident off Iceland on Saturday, limped into Rosyth dockyard yesterday.

The Diomede was involved in a chase lasting two and a half hours with the Icelandic gunboat Baldur, during which there were four collisions. The Diomede sustained a gash 20ft long and 3ft wide along her port side.

First the frigate damaged the Baldur's bridge with her anchor. The Baldur retaliated by damaging the frigate's bow. Then the Diomede dented the Baldur's starboard side. Finally, the Baldur's stern ripped the Diomede's port side open.

"It ripped us open like a tin opener", Captain Robert McQueen, of Glasgow, said. "We were at action stations and the wardroom was manned by the medical team as an emergency operating theatre. Fortunately, I had previously instructed all personnel there to sit in the inside part of the wardroom. All of them were lucky to escape serious injury.

"The tactics of the gunboat skippers are very dangerous, and it can only be a matter of time before there is a tragedy."

Captain McQueen had to reduce speed to avoid shipping water on the port side, but managed to keep the Baldur away from 19 British trawlers until the frigates Mermaid and Galitea arrived and escorted the gunboat back to the 12-mile limit. She proceeded to Rosyth, in gale conditions, after repairs.

The Diomede was rammed six times during a three-week patrol. "Every time the gunboats scored a hit their crews cheered and treated it with great glee", Captain McQueen said. "There is no doubt in my mind that these rammings were deliberate, and people are going to get badly hurt or even killed at some stage."

Experts began an examination of the damage to the ship, but it has yet to be decided whether she will be repaired at Rosyth or return to her home port, Chatham. She will be out of commission for several weeks.

WEST EUROPE

Madrid 'ends chance of peaceful change'

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, March 30

One of the leaders of Spain's newly formed opposition alliance said on his release today after a night of police interrogation that the Government had wrecked all chances of a transition to democracy by negotiation.

Señor Raul Morodo was one of the six leaders of the Democratic Alliance arrested last night by secret police just as they were to give a press conference setting out the aims of the new organization now Spain's biggest opposition grouping.

He said the Government's action was a political blunder, which "had wrecked the possibility of negotiations". But he added that the alliance would continue to campaign for democracy whatever happened.

Three left-wing leaders of the alliance, including Señor Marcelino Camacho, leader of the powerful underground trade union movement, were still held at Madrid police headquarters today.

The new grouping unites the Communist-formed Democratic Junta and the Platform of Democratic Convergence, linking Socialists and Christian Democrats.

The aims it intended to announce last night include the rapid dismantling of the Franco regime and the formation, with members of the present Government, of a provisional government to oversee the transition to democracy.

Spanish newspapers and news-agencies have been warned by the Government not to print the alliances manifesto. Press reports have repeatedly referred to the organization as communist, when in fact Christian Democrats and Socialists form a large part of the grouping.

The reports are seen as an attempt to discredit the joint front, and alienate it from public opinion.

Meanwhile, a worker was shot dead at a factory near San Sebastian today. ETA, the extreme Basque separatist group, is suspected.

Ripe for democracy: Señor José Vidal Beneyto, of the Democratic Junta, told the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London that Spain was ripe for democracy. He is the representative of the Socialist Confederation in the Paris-based committee of the Junta.

Señor Beneyto said the Spanish Government was manoeuvring to present a democratic façade but the King had not grasped the opportunity to develop real democracy.

Spain was now a developing industrial country with a managerial class convinced that full integration into the EEC was a precondition of economic development.

Federal issues dominate poll for Stuttgart assembly

State vote last test of opinion before German general election

From Dan van der Vat
Bonn, March 30

Next Sunday's state parliamentary election in Baden-Württemberg is the last great test of voters' opinion before the federal general election on October 3.

Leaders of all three main parties in West Germany's most prosperous *Land* have given up all pretence in the closing days of the campaign that anything but federal issues dominate the election, which thus acquires even more importance for politicians in Bonn.

At the last election for the Stuttgart legislature four years ago, the Christian Democrats (CDU), in opposition at federal level, won a handsome absolute majority of 52.9 per cent of the total vote on a turnout of 80 per cent. The Social Democrats (SPD) got 37.6 per cent and the Free Democrats (FDP) 8.9 per cent. A coalition of these two parties holds power in Bonn and hopes to do the same in Baden-Württemberg after Sunday.

Their chance is slender. Opinion polls suggest that while the FDP may be able to reach double figures, the SPD can expect to lose ground. The only question is how much they will drop. It would be a serious political upset if the two parties combined were able to break the CDU's absolute majority, which at present gives the party 65 seats in a 120-seat legislature (SPD 45, FDP 10), an overall majority of 10.

Although national issues, like the recent controversy over the Polish treaties and whether the FDP is moving towards the CDU in its future coalition calculations, have been addressed to the politicians, more often than local ones, state issues have not been left out.

Education, the economy and its future development in the *Land* are among the local issues. As the chief candidate of the FDP, Dr Johann Brandenburg, put it as I toured Baden-Württemberg: "It is rotten luck that our election is now so close to the general election. We ought to be able to fight on local policies for local problems."

Dr Hans Filbinger, aged 62, prime minister for 10 years and the very model of what the West Germans call a *Landesvater* (state-father) is leading the CDU campaign. His taste for sonorous oratory, avuncular manner and frontal baldness suggest a senator of ancient Rome.

The SPD candidate for prime minister is Dr Erhard Eppler, aged 49, one of West Germany's more remarkable political figures. After six years as federal Minister for Overseas Aid, he resigned on principle in 1974, because his aid budget was cut in a Bonn government economy drive, and returned to his home state.

Dr Eppler's profound Protestantism—he is a senior lay official of the Evangelical Church—is not going to help him much in this deeply Roman Catholic state. A carefully worded pastoral letter from the local Catholic hierarchy, read out in churches last Sunday, contained a reminder that the SPD favoured abortion on demand, and was seen by Dr Eppler as a clear hint to vote CDU.

The general election result in Baden-Württemberg will not necessarily be a carbon copy of Sunday's voting, as 1972 showed. In the general election that year, turnout in the state went up to 90.2 per cent, with the CDU getting 49.8 per cent of the total, the SPD 38.9 and the FDP 10.2 per cent. This year, the interval will be a month shorter.

Baden-Württemberg has a population of 9.2 million, of whom about 6.1 million are entitled to vote. It also has a distinctly lower unemployment rate than the national average. Sunday's vote therefore cannot be used as the basis for a totally accurate forecast of the result nationally or locally on October 3, but it will be a much better pointer than any opinion poll.

EEC food labelling system aims to help consumers

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 30

A uniform system of labelling foodstuffs in the EEC has been proposed by the European Commission as a means both of protecting consumers against fraudulent or misleading claims and of removing obstacles to free trade created by the different labelling methods prevailing in member states.

One of the main recommendations of the Commission directive, which is to be considered by the Council of Ministers, is that foodstuffs should be clearly marked with the date until which they will remain "entirely edible" and retain their "specific properties".

In most EEC countries, food products either give no such indication or else mention a date by which the item must be sold.

The date, which should generally include the day, month and year, should be preceded by the words "Will keep until", the Commission recommends. Codes should not be used, and all particulars on labels should "be printed in clearly legible and indelible characters".

Other information on labels should include the name under which the product is sold, a list of ingredients, the net quantity (in the case of prepacked foodstuffs), special conditions for storage or use, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer or retailer.

The Commission's directive also asks member states to prohibit all forms of display, advertising, packaging or labelling of food products which lay claim to unproven medicinal or other special properties. An exception is made of "certain dietetic and dietary foods and spa waters".

If member states approve the directive, they would be required to amend national legislation within one year. After two years, they would be obliged to open their markets to all products complying with the directive, and after three to prohibit trade in products which still did not comply.

Protest hits Concorde test flight

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 30

About 50 trainee airline pilots today delayed a French Concorde test flight for several hours by sitting on the runway at Montpellier airport in south-west France.

The National Civil Aviation School trainees were protesting at the decision of M Marcel Cavaillé, Secretary of Transport, to stop recruiting airline pilots this year and next because of the economic slump.

The demonstrators finally allowed the Concorde to take off for Toulouse, where the French version of the supersonic aircraft is made.

France's three main airlines have announced that because of the slump's effect on aviation they will not be making any big recruiting effort before 1982.

The demonstrators demanded that M Cavaillé keep the promises of job prospects they were given when they first entered the school.

King hears of Andalusia water shortage

From Harry Debelius
Seville, March 30

King Juan Carlos accepted the adulation of thousands who jammed the main square of Carmona, near Seville, today.

The King and Queen Sophia had earlier visited a new housing estate in Seville then driven to Carmona, a hill-top town about 25 miles to the east.

In Carmona, on the second day of his week-long tour of western Andalusia, the King listened to local authorities who told him about the need for irrigation of the surrounding farmland. The Government has offered to share the cost of irrigation with the landowners.

Carmona's open welcome of the royal couple today was especially significant as less than two years ago the Guardia Civil had shot dead one person in riots over the water shortage.

The King and Queen inaugurated a government-run inn. It was opened at a moment when concern is growing over the increasing numbers of cancellations by foreign travel agencies. Hotel owners and others in the catering business are blaming press reports of strikes and demonstrations for frightening the tourists away.

Señor Ignacio Agirre, the newly appointed Under-Secretary for Tourism, who attended today's inauguration, has already halted plans for a number of other new inns in order to cut the losses caused by the drop in tourism.

The King and Queen were cheered wherever they went in this largely agricultural region of Andalusia. There was a distinct atmosphere of a fiesta in the villages, with many children in the audiences as schools were closed for the day.

Cairo in accord with Bonn

Bonn, March 30.—President Sadat of Egypt had a three-hour talk today with Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, on the second day of his visit, at which the two leaders have agreed a lasting peace in the Middle East is possible by negotiation.

Elsewhere, Herr Genscher, Foreign Minister of West Germany, and Mr Fahmi, his Egyptian counterpart, signed agreements providing Egypt with capital aid worth £20m and a low-interest credit of £26m.

reasures of 30 ountries in dam festival

Our Arts Reporter

asures from 30 countries have n assembled for the World of m Festival, which begins to- rrow in London. It will prob- y never again be possible to ge such an event in Britain ording to Mr Paul Keeler, the tival's artistic director, yester- y.

The £2m festival will be in- gurated by the Queen at the een Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, April 8, although the first of exhibitions opens tomorrow Exeter.

Miss Joanna Drew, Arts Council rector of exhibitions, said the ayward Gallery exhibition was e most complex the council had er undertaken. Items were wn in from 25 countries and 5 sources and the council's ckers were sent to the Middle st to pack and ship materials. Many exhibits had come from aq, Syria, Egypt, Iran and nisia.

During the three months of the stival there are to be exhibitions tside London at Manchester, xford, Cambridge, Exeter, Dur- am and Edinburgh, and those ill be preceded by a programme f lectures. Between six and even hundred schools were in- luded in the educational pro- ramme.

Associated with the festival, which has been paid for by inance from the Islamic world, are six films to be shown on BBC 2 on Wednesdays, beginning on April 14.

Article 'attempt to punish union chief'

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff

The national executive of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) was trying to punish Mrs Kate Losinska, the union's president, for an article that appeared under her name in *Reader's Digest*, it was alleged in the High Court yesterday.

Mrs Losinska sought an injunction restraining the union from publishing a reply to the article in its monthly journal, *Red Tape*, or sending circulars to members. She said that such action would diminish her chances of reelection as president at the annual conference on May 3.

In an affidavit she said: "It is my belief that recent events in the association relating to the appointment of officials and the attempt to engineer my defeat in the following election will bring about a situation similar to that which gave rise to the investigation into the security procedures in the public service."

She was referring to the publication in 1962 of the report of an independent committee, appointed by the Government, entitled *Security Procedures in the Public Service*. "As a result of this report a number of officials of the CPSA were dismissed from the service of the association", Mrs Losinska said.

Mrs Losinska: Opposes left-wingers.

But Mr William Kendall, the union's general secretary, who was not in court, said in an affidavit that he was not aware of anything that had happened within the association since 1962 that could endanger security procedures in the public service.

He added: "Nor do I know of any grounds for saying that the outcome of the forthcoming election, whatever that outcome may be, could have such an effect."

Mr Alexander Irvine, for Mrs Losinska, said the plain object of the proposed circular and article in *Red Tape* was to punish Mrs Losinska by diminishing her standing in the eyes of the membership in a way that was likely to prejudice her prospects for reelection.

The union's national executive committee had approved a resolution on March 3, by 17 votes to 8, deploring "the improper use of the office of president of the CPSA to attack the properly authorized activities of some members of both this association and other public sector trade unions". It added: "We consider the publication of the *Reader's Digest* article to be a public demonstration of gross irresponsibility."

Mr Irvine said that on March 26 the national executive toned down the resolution, no doubt hoping that in its new form it would be more defensible. But, he said, there remained an intention to publish a circular and an article in *Red Tape*.

He said Mrs Losinska had for long been concerned to combat the policies and activities in the union of those she regarded as extreme left-wingers. The article in *Reader's Digest* sought to bring into sharp focus the methods of groups of communists and members of other extreme left-wing organizations within trade unions.

The case continues today.

Yard men again remanded

Twelve retired or suspended Scotland Yard men were again remanded on bail at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday until committal proceedings start. All are charged with conspiracy.

The 12 men, who include Wallace Virgo, former head of the murder squad, and Kenneth Drury, former head of the Flying Squad, were remanded on bail of £5,000 each.

Airline seeks to raise fares

British Caledonian yesterday sought a £1 increase on one-way air fares this summer between London and Glasgow and London and Edinburgh.

The independent airline expected to lose £850,000 on the routes in its present financial year, executives told a Civil Aviation Authority hearing in London. The increase would make tourist tickets £24 and the first-class fare £35.

Two jailed over escort agency prostitution

A jury at the Central Criminal Court, who had been told that two Mayfair escort agencies had been a front for prostitution, and that among the clients were princes, rich Arabs, and "sons of famous people you cannot name", yesterday convicted five people.

Joseph Wilkins, aged 39, was sentenced to a total of three-and-a-half years' imprisonment. His "first lieutenant", Walter Birch, aged 42, received 30 months. Both were convicted of living off the earnings of prostitutes operating from the Eve Escort Agency, in Brook Street, and La Femme International, of James Street.

Mrs Pearl Wilkins, of Logmore Green Farm, Westcott, near Dorking, was convicted of aiding and abetting her husband to live off immoral earnings and manage Eve Escort while an undischarged bankrupt. Judge Lawson, QC, said that because she had led a stormy life as the wife of Mr Wilkins she would be conditionally discharged.

Miss Kathleen Andon, aged 22, Mr Birch's girl friend, of Cadogan Square, Belgravia, was convicted of controlling prostitutes at both agencies and given a 15-month suspended sentence.

Vijitha Udurawana was convicted of living off earnings of prostitutes at La Femme International, where he had been employed as general handyman. He was given a six-month suspended sentence.

Two other men were discharged. The jury were unable to agree in the case of David Fraser, aged 27, of Aldron House, Water Drive, Brixton, who denied living off the earnings of prostitutes.

The prosecution offered no evidence and the judge directed that a verdict of not guilty be entered. Roy Hilder, aged 28, of Gilkes Crescent, East Dulwich, was found not guilty of assault.

Another council official is suspended

By a Staff Reporter

Another senior council official in Manchester has been suspended from duty after police inquiries in the city relating to items of office equipment.

Mr Alan Glover, purchasing officer with Manchester City Council, has been suspended by the head of his department, Mr James Hetherington, the city treasurer pending internal inquiries.

Last Friday Mr Joe Cooper, head of Greater Manchester County Council's public relations department was suspended.

Mr Glover, aged 46, of Ieywood, Lancashire, has been in charge of a central purchasing pool at Manchester town hall for the past four years.

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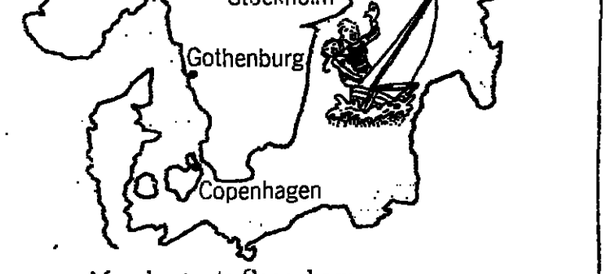

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OVERSEAS

EEC urged to agree over direct elections

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 30

A "solemn appeal" to EEC heads of government not to postpone their promised approval of a convention providing for direct elections to the European Parliament when they meet in Luxembourg later this week was made here today by M Georges Spenale, the Parliament's president.

He said that failure to take a decision would deal "a serious blow" not only to the high reputation of the European Council, as the summits are called, but also to the hopes raised last December, when heads of Government agreed that direct elections should take place in May or June of 1978.

M Spenale disclosed that he had received a letter from Mr Gaston Thorn, the Luxembourg Prime Minister and present EEC president, assuring him that the question of direct elections would be treated "as a matter of priority" in the summit discussions on Thursday and Friday.

Despite this assurance, there is doubt in Brussels about how much time the summit will have for direct elections, or the Tindemans report on European Union, in view of a recent French request that the economic and monetary crisis should head the agenda.

What the heads of government will be asked to approve in Luxembourg is the text of a convention providing for direct elections, most of the clauses of which are no longer in dispute. Several key elements, however, remain the subject of controversy, after failure to resolve them at foreign minister level.

By far the most important is the size of, and distribution of seats in, a directly-elected Parliament. Here the debate is mainly between France, which advocates a strict proportionality between seats and population strength, and smaller states like Ireland, which want the distribution heavily weighted in their favour.

The position of Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, is close to that of the European Parliament itself. This is that while proportionality should be observed as far as possible, small states must be ensured a minimum reasonable representation; but he is also concerned that Scotland and Wales should be adequately represented, which raises the rather different issue of regional claims.

From what Mr Callaghan said yesterday in the House of Commons, it seems fairly clear that the British representative will not be in a position to commit the Government finally on direct elections at this week's EEC summit. Even more serious, in the view of some Brussels observers, is the Gaullist pressure on President Giscard d'Estaing to withhold approval for direct elections.

M Spenale said he was satisfied that there had been no retreat by Britain from its commitment to the principle of direct elections.

What would be inexcusable, M Spenale said, would be for the Nine to allow the practical problems of introducing direct elections at the national level to serve as a pretext for postponing the necessary joint decision at the Community level. The practical problems could not be tackled until that decision had been taken and ratified by national parliaments.

Our Political Staff writes: In a letter to each head of government, M Spenale enclosed a copy of the European Parliament's resolution of March 11, which urged that a definite decision should be made at the Luxembourg summit meeting. M Spenale said the resolution reflected "a wide measure of agreement on the principle of direct elections".

Odd allies in Lisbon strike siege

From Robert Fisk
Lisbon, March 30

The journey to the nineteenth-century National Assembly building in Lisbon is likely to become increasingly tortuous for members of the Portuguese Government over the next few days.

For the past fortnight the assembly entrance has been blocked by 300 green-roofed taxis whose Portuguese owners, recently returned from Angola and Mozambique, are demanding licences to work in the city. Now about 2,000 workers from the country's biggest building concern are threatening to enlarge the industrial siege by surrounding the assembly with heavy construction equipment.

On Friday night, President da Costa Gomes, the Portuguese military leadership, the Government and the diplomatic corps are supposed to enter the building to close the assembly before the elections on April 25. The threat by the mainly communist building workers is presumably timed to coincide with this. The workers, some of whom took part in the abortive left-wing coup in November, are demanding money for their company, which is unable to pay its employees.

How they will be greeted by the politically conservative taxi drivers is a matter of some speculation. They, of course, are part of the much bigger problem of the *Retornados*, the refugees from Portugal's abandoned lands in Africa.

Just as the taximen outside the assembly are demanding licences, so the local cab-owners are threatening to strike in Lisbon and Oporto if the licences are granted.

Israel troops reported massing near border with Lebanon

From Paul Martin
Beirut, March 30

The Christian right gave a warning today that Israeli troops and armour were massing on Lebanon's southern border as the defiant left stood firm against mounting pressure for a ceasefire. Fears of a military intervention from Syria and Israel have reached a peak after the American warning to both countries not to send in their armies.

As the country endured its most savage 24 hours of fighting on all fronts in the 11 months of civil war, the leader of the unsuccessful coup against President Franjieh urged army rebels on either side to observe a ceasefire. Broadcasting on Lebanon radio, Brigadier Aziz Ahdab said that it had become a matter of the utmost urgency to halt the civil war.

Events are getting out of control with the Army split between the Muslim and Christian sides in the battle for Beirut port and for Mount Lebanon. Syria is relying on Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian guerrilla leader, to exercise the pressure on Mr Kamal Jumblatt and his victorious leftist forces that it had not been able to exert itself.

However, 24 hours after initiating his contacts with Mr Jumblatt, Mr Arafat had not succeeded in securing the ceasefire pledge necessary to defuse the situation. Mr Jumblatt has made clear that he intends to keep on fighting until he achieves political victory. He wants the President's resignation and acceptance of his radical political reforms.

The warning that Israel was preparing to enter the conflict militarily was issued by the Phalangist radio which speaks for the right-wing Christian militias. It said that the concentrations of armour and troops had built up over the night and that the Israelis had established checkpoints inside the Lebanese border.

This is not the first time that the Phalangists have reported intervention plans by either the Israelis or the Syrians but it comes at a time when an intervention by either party is considered more than likely. The Syrians had earlier moved troops up to the Lebanese border as their peace initiative was being scuttled by leftist military advances in the latest phase of the war.

Unless the left agrees to a ceasefire it is certain that the civil war will bring even greater bloodshed and chaos than in the past week of country-wide fighting. As both sides were looked in battle in the Beirut port area and in the hills overlooking it last night, tanks, heavy artillery and mortars were used in the residential areas on either side.

At least 250 people were killed and hundreds wounded. From just after midnight there were explosions at the rate of one every five seconds for long periods as tanks held by army rebel units of both Muslims and Christians shelled each other's populations.

Round the slopes of Mount Lebanon, leftist armies and right-wing Christians pounded each other in an unrelenting struggle for strategic villages. The leftists' advance in the mountains appears to have been blunted for the moment, but the Christian defenders have begun to show signs that the enormous military pressure on them is beginning to tell.

From the beginning of the latest campaign they have favoured outside intervention—be it Syrian, Israeli or from the West—to impose the kind of solution they wanted. However Mr Jumblatt has calculated that such an intervention would not be politically feasible and this has encouraged him in his campaign.

It is for this reason that he has not been in any hurry to halt his forces in the field. Today he met the leaders of the other main leftist forces. They are expected to produce a common stand within 24 hours. Earlier he had been reported to be holding a wider meeting, including Mr Arafat in his mountain redoubt.

Mr Arafat and other Palestinian leaders, including Dr George Habbash, of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, met at a rally in Beirut to mark solidarity with the demonstrators on the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The appearance of Mr Arafat and Dr Habbash on the same platform demonstrates the closing of Palestinian ranks in Lebanon to sabotage the attempts by the Syrians to impose peace. For the past week the radical Rejection wing of the Palestinian movement has spearheaded the fighting in the Beirut port area and Mr Arafat's mainstream forces led by his own Fatah group have lent their weight in the mountain war.

Greece breaks off talks on American bases

From Our Correspondent
Athens, March 30

The Greek Government has broken off negotiations in Washington over the future of American bases in Greece, pending a major policy review following the new defence agreement between the United States and Turkey. Under this agreement, Turkey is to receive military aid worth $1,000m (about £426m) over the next four years, in exchange for authorizing the reactivation of the 26 American bases and listening posts in Turkey.

The Greek leaders are seriously concerned that this large-scale military support for Turkey may upset the balance of power in the Aegean at a particularly delicate phase of Greek-Turkish antagonism.

The Greek diplomatic and military negotiating team under Mr Petros Kalogoras, which went to Washington a week ago, was recalled immediately after Friday's announcement that the United States-Turkish treaty had been signed. The mission flew back to Greece today.

The United States Government was told that in view of the new defence agreement with Turkey, Greece proposed to review its negotiating position on American bases here. Greek officials say that as the United States evidently has agreed to a completely new set of rules in connexion with its bases in Turkey, these rules should be taken into account by the Greek side in their own negotiations. No threats were made or implied.

The Greek leaders are now holding consultations on how to redress the balance of power with Turkey. They have been reassured by the Americans that Greece will be receiving this year aid in the range of $200m to $250m. This should roughly offset the grant to Turkey if taken on a yearly basis.

Furthermore, the United States Government would be willing to discuss with Greece aid requirements for 1977, to help Athens to plan its defence purchases ahead. Washington also is aware that Greece would welcome a formal United States commitment guaranteeing the status quo in the Aegean. Such a commitment has already been given but only in the form of reassurances to both Greece and Turkey that America would "oppose" any aggression in the Aegean.

The Greek side, however, suspecting that Turkey covets the Greek islands of the eastern Aegean, has been pressing for a more substantial guarantee, possibly a pledge of American physical involvement in case of Turkish aggression in the area.

It was expected that these questions would have been discussed at the highest level when Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, made his planned visit to Washington some time in the early summer; but the latest developments may lead the Greek leader to reconsider his travel plans.

Our Ankara Correspondent Writes: Turkish officials appeared satisfied today with the new defence agreement, although they expressed some reservation whether it would be ratified by the United States Congress. Mr Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil, the Foreign Minister, who signed the agreement in Washington, was asked at a press conference in Ankara today how he thought the Congress would vote. He replied: "I am not yet blessed with the gift of prophecy."

Officials described the terms of the new agreement as being "more advanced than the previous one", signed in 1969, in that it contained articles which foresaw American military aid to Turkey.

Mr Caglayangil also seemed happy during his press conference, despite an earlier, cautious statement in which he said: "This agreement will no doubt face criticism from certain circles, but I am prepared to defend my stand."

Performance in mental patient role wins Oscar

Los Angeles, March 30.—Jack Nicholson won a Hollywood Oscar here last night, after four unsuccessful nominations, for his role as a rebel patient in a lunatic asylum in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

His award for best actor was one of five Oscars awarded to the film by the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. "I guess this proves there are as many nuts in the academy as anywhere else", the actor, who is 39, said as he accepted his statuette.

His co-star, Louise Fletcher, broke down in tears when she won the best actress award for her performance as a tyrannical nurse. The film also collected awards for best picture, best adapted screenplay and the best director, Mr Milos Forman, a Czechoslovak expatriate.

The Czechoslovak authorities gave his twin 11-year-old sons a 10-day visa to visit their father. "It is a great thrill; it is like a miracle", he said as he hugged them.

The film was the first to win all the senior awards since *It Happened One Night*, with Claudette Colbert and Clark Gable, in 1934.

The award for best supporting actor went to 80-year-old George Burns, who stepped into the role of a crotchety old comedian in *The Sunshine Boys* after the death of his friend Jack Benny.

Other awards were:

best supporting actress: Lee Grant, for her portrayal as an unfaithful wife in *Shampoo*.

best foreign film: Scent of a *Woman*, directed by Dino Risi of Italy and starring Vittorio Gassman.

Jack Nicholson and Louise Fletcher after receiving Oscars for their roles in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest".

Best original screenplay: Dog Day Afternoon, by Frank Pierson.

Best original song: "I'm Easy", from the film Nashville, words and music by Keith Carradine.

Best original score: Jaws, by John Williams.

Best costume design: Barry Lyndon, by Ulla-Britt Soderlund and Milena Canonero.

Best adapted score: Barry Lyndon, by Leonard Rosenham.

Best art direction: Barry Lyndon, by Ken Adam and Roy Walker (art direction) and Vernon Dixon (set direction).

Best cinematography: Barry Lyndon, by John Alcott.

Best editing: Jaws, by Verna Fields.

Best animated short film: Great, by Bob Godfrey.

Best feature-length documentary: The Man Who Skied Down Everest, from Canada.

Best live action short film: Angel and Big Joe, by Bert Salzman Productions.

Best sound: Jaws, by Robert Hoyt, Roger Heman, Earl Madery and John Carter.

Best short subject documentary: The End of the Game, by Claire Wilbur and Robin Lehman.—Reuter.

Mr Udall woos New York voters

From Peter Strafford
New York, March 30

Mr Morris Udall, the congressman from Arizona, poses for photographs in front of an almost completed new school in Queens which is being boarded up for lack of funds to finish it. "What kind of people are we?" he asks, denouncing the situation as an outrage.

This is typical of Mr Udall's approach to the New York state primary, to be held in a week's time. He is campaigning as the most liberal of the main Democratic candidates and is making a great deal of the need to divert federal funds to deal with domestic problems, particularly in the big cities.

In a speech yesterday, he described the urban crisis as "the most important domestic question that this country faces today". He criticized the Nixon and Ford administrations for ignoring the cities, and he outlined five measures that should be taken to deal with their difficulties.

The Federal Government should assume the costs of such national problems as welfare payments to the unemployed and a national health insurance system; federal investments should be made in the central cities to provide new jobs; the quality of life should be improved by a tough approach to crime; federal backing should be given to municipal bonds; and bureaucracy should be cut out in the allocation of federal funds.

This is a critical time for Mr Udal. He needs to do well both in New York and in Wisconsin, which holds its primary on the same day, if he is to keep his candidacy alive. He is dividing his time between the two states, as are his two main rivals in New York, Senator Henry Jackson and Mr Jimmy Carter.

US Elections 1976

He is a tall, good-looking man, with a good deal of charm in his manner, and a tendency to self-deprecation. He talks frequently about what he would do as President, but somehow fails to give the impression that he really believes he could be elected, or even nominated as the Democratic candidate.

That could change, of course, if he does well next week. For the moment, however, his campaign lacks the drive that Senator George McGovern, appealing to a broadly similar section of the electorate, managed to build up four years ago.

It is not for want of trying. His speech yesterday on the cities was made to an audience of students at Queens College, and he was cheered for many of his points. But members of his campaign staff conceded that there was a world of difference in the attitude of young people today, who were far less interested in radical change now that the Vietnam war was in the past.

In his proposals on the cities, Mr Udall is competing with Mr Jackson, who also has a plan for solving their problems, including several of the same general ideas. But Mr Udall argues that there is one big difference from Mr Jackson's ideas. He is prepared to cut the defence budget substantially in order to pay for his proposals, whereas Mr Jackson is not. (Mr Jackson argues that the extra revenue would come from reducing unemployment.)

The two men join in denouncing Mr Carter for speaking out against federal assistance to New York during its financial troubles last year. Mr Jackson says that he was one of the first to advocate assistance for New York, at a time when it was unpopular in Washington. Mr Udall accuses Mr Carter of simply promising "greener pastures and simpler visions" rather than a detailed approach.

Mr Udall can expect to lose much of the liberal Jewish vote to Mr Jackson because Mr Jackson is seen as the prime supporter of Israel. But he has been careful not to alienate the Jewish vote, and has joined Mr Jackson in denouncing last week's speech at the United Nations by Mr William Scranton, the American representative, with its criticism of Israeli policies.

He is on sure ground, however, when he calls for a general and unconditional amnesty for deserters and draft evaders from the Vietnam war period. The same is true of his tough line on the big corporations. He promises to take action against the big drug companies and to try to break up General Motors and the oil companies.

He has been equally critical of Concorde. It was "a turkey", he said recently and should not be allowed to land in the United States.

Mr Nkomo makes surprise visit to Lusaka

Lusaka, March 30.—Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the internal wing of the Rhodesian African National Council (ANC), has arrived here from Bulawayo for private talks with President Kaunda, it was learnt today. Mr Nkomo was believed to have briefed the Zambian leader on the latest political situation in Salisbury.

There was no official announcement on his surprise visit but nationalist sources said he met his supporters in Lusaka.

Last week, after Mr Nkomo and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the rival external ANC, had attended the Lusaka summit on Rhodesia, Mr Nkomo told reporters that the question of the unification of the two factions of the ANC was not raised at the talks. But President Kaunda emphasized to local and foreign journalists yesterday the importance of the two groups coming together to face the common enemy.

Bishop Muzorewa, who said he had remained behind to work out the mechanics of unity flew to Nairobi yesterday on his way to Uganda for discussions with President Amin, chairman of the Organization of African Unity.

The Government-owned *Zambia Daily Mail* in a leading article today called on ANC leaders to mobilize Rhodesian blacks into sabotage squads to aid the guerrilla war.

It suggested that squads should be set up to destroy bridges and sabotage factory machinery.

Pamphlets should be widely distributed showing how to disable engines and machinery and how to put sugar into the petrol tanks of police and army vehicles.

The newspaper also called on ANC guerrillas to nationalize white property in areas they might occupy and hand them over to villagers.

The editorial follows a call yesterday by President Kaunda to blacks in Rhodesia to launch an "effective internal war" on the Rhodesian whites by "blowing up bridges, putting sand into their petrol tanks, destroying roads and factories, poisoning cattle and other tactics".—Agence France-Presse.

Head of US aircraft firm issues bribes denial

From Frank Vogl
New York, March 30

"We don't pay any bribes", said Mr John Bierworth, chairman of Grumman Corporation, which is one of America's largest military aircraft manufacturers.

Grumman has been in the midst of a controversy with the Government of Iran since the disclosure that its sales representative in Teheran was due to collect about $24m (more than £12m) in commissions as a result of the sale of 80 Grumman F14 Tomcat fighter aircraft.

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is now investigating the Grumman sale and studying the commission contracts of the representative.

Mr Bierworth insisted that the payments to him were for legitimate business purposes. The commission worked out to just under 2 per cent of the total contract value of the Grumman-Iran deal. The representative, however, had many substantial business costs and at no time was he instructed to make bribes, Mr Bierworth said.

The Grumman chairman added that the Government of Iran had not been overcharged on this deal, and that since his recent trip to Teheran, he was confident that the whole matter would soon be satisfactorily concluded with the Iranian Government.

Over the last year a host of big American companies have gained publicity for allegedly paying bribes to promote foreign business and in almost every case the companies have made public admissions, although their leading executives have continually refused to discuss the bribery payments with journalists.

Mr Bierworth, whose company has found itself to be among those to have allegedly made questionable foreign payments, is probably the first chairman of a big American company to be willing to discuss bribery and to declare flatly, despite the continuing SEC investigations, that Grumman has not been paying bribes.

Mr Bierworth told a group of foreign correspondents here that companies often had no alternative but to engage foreign consultants and representatives to promote sales, as the companies did not have the resources or the skilled executives to deal with foreign governments.

The F14 aircraft, he said, had no foreign competitors and Iran's interest in the aircraft had first been brought to the attention of Grumman by the United States Department of Defence.

Most importantly, Mr Bierworth argued that bribery in international business was just not necessary. He said that companies engaging in bribery often found themselves in great difficulty, as their reputation spread and they became subject to more and more demands for secret payments.

Mr Bierworth pointed out that Grumman was already virtually at its capacity limit with manufacturing the F14 and it would not pay for it to go around bribing governments to secure more orders, as expanding plant capacity would be impractical and too costly.

The Grumman story also draws attention to the role of the Defence Department in all military aircraft deals. In almost all cases the department plays a key role in foreign military contracts and it is therefore well informed on every stage of the complicated negotiations involved before a government signs a weapons contract.

Holland and Italy win pact on Lockheed deals

Washington, March 30.—The United States, which agreed yesterday to exchange evidence on the Lockheed bribery scandal with Holland and Italy, is now negotiating similar pacts with other countries, the Justice Department said today.

The first such agreement, in which information stemming from irregular payments by Lockheed to promote foreign sales of its aircraft will be exchanged, was signed with Japan eight days ago.

King Husain begins talks in Washington

Washington, March 30.—King Husain of Jordan told President Ford today that the Middle East stood at the crossroads between war and peace and appealed for United States help in resolving its problems.

The King was speaking at a welcoming ceremony at the White House as he began two days of official talks with Mr Ford, Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State.

The Middle East needed the "wisdom and fortitude" of the United States, the King said. He was greeted by President Ford as a "force for reason and moderation in the Middle East" and as a loyal friend of the United States.—Reuter.

Tornadoes kill 11 and tear up town centres in US

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 30

Eleven people were killed, more than 200 injured, and hundreds made homeless by tornadoes which swept through Arkansas, Mississippi and Texas yesterday. The tornadoes tore up the central areas of towns in Arkansas and Mississippi.

In Arkansas, the worst affected was Cabot, a town 20 miles north-east of Little Rock, where five people were killed. Much of its centre, with shops and other businesses, was damaged. The whole main street was flattened, the sheriff's office reported.

Police, state troopers and members of the National Guard were ordered into the town. Portable generators were brought in to supply emergency electricity, and work began on restoring telephone, gas and electrical services.

In Canton, Mississippi, five people were killed. A curfew was ordered last night in order to prevent looting in the debris. Buildings were wrecked, oak trees uprooted, and part of the cupola on top of the court building was ripped off. The tornado also did damage in the countryside, tearing up a poultry processing plant and wrecking caravans.

US Supreme Court rules against 'unnatural acts'

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 30

American homosexuals are much perturbed by yesterday's Supreme Court ruling that states may forbid unnatural acts by consenting adults in private. The court, without comment, ruled six to three that a Virginia appeals court was correct in sustaining the constitutionality of a law of that state prohibiting sodomy.

The ruling is a severe setback to the "Gay rights movement," which seeks to eliminate all laws directed against homosexuals. One of the plaintiffs in the original case said: "I am deeply disturbed and depressed by the Supreme Court's insensitivity to the right to privacy of all Americans."

The excutive director of the National Gay Task Force said that the ruling was an enormous disappointment and ran counter to the national trend. He said that laws against some sexual acts between consenting adults of the same sex had been repealed in 13 states. There are still laws against sodomy in 42 states and their constitutionality is now established.

The Virginia appeals court ruled that the law was valid because "it is enough for upholding the legislation to establish that the prohibited conduct is likely to end in a contribution to moral delinquency". The judges cited Leviticus: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind: it is an abomination."

Crisis threatens environmental plans

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, March 30

Plans in every part of the United Nations Environment Programme will have to be greatly curtailed, if not abandoned, if its financial crisis is not solved, Dr Mustafa Tolba, the programme's executive director, said in Nairobi today. He opened the programme's annual governing council, on which 58 states are represented.

"Each achievement of Unep spreads confidence that environmental problems can be tackled and are soluble, and each such achievement encourages more governments to turn to Unep for assistance", he said.

It would be the supreme irony if the programme were to be a victim of its own success. "It lies with governments to ensure that this does not happen."

Dr Tolba said that the task now faced was a formidable one. "Consideration of the environment too often still appears as an afterthought when governments and others contemplate exploitation of the riches of the seas."

He was also concerned at the mounting threat to wildlife "despite international concern, the actions of governments and the efforts of voluntary groups."

Greater emphasis should be placed on questions of land use, and on research which would encourage more industries to substitute renewable for non-renewable resources in production.

"We should give more attention to encouraging the richer countries" to apply the principles of ecological development in their own planning, "especially through the adoption of low-waste technologies" and more modest use of resources.

Ecological development was for all. "And the fact that many developing countries have seen its relevance to their aim of sustainable self-reliant development should not obscure its potential application in industrialized countries, with benefits both to themselves and to the world at large."

Referring to the financial crisis, Dr Tolba said that payments from member states had lagged far behind their pledges. Unep had received pledges totalling almost $109m (£57m) to the end of 1977, but only $41.2m had been received.

Moscow embassy scare leaves Americans cold

From Our Correspondent
Moscow, March 30

For the second time in less than a week, there was a bomb scare at the American Embassy today. At noon, the Soviet Foreign Ministry telephoned Mr Clifford Gross, the counsellor for consular affairs, to say that an anonymous caller had reported a bomb on the second floor, timed to go off at 1 pm.

The previous bomb scare, last Wednesday, was started by an anonymous call direct to the Marine security guard. Presumably the communication through official channels of diplomatic protocol was intended to make the hoax seem more plausible.

While nobody was impressed by the ruse, the embassy was not taking any chances. The building was cleared of all occupants, from the ambassador downwards. Women at the hairdresser's were caught in disarray. Guests at private luncheon parties were hustled off before they could swallow the first cocktail.

Mr Walter Stoessel, the ambassador, who just returned from the latest negotiating session on peaceful nuclear explosions, issued directions for the evacuation and instructions to the Marines to check the entire building. He was driven to Spaso House, the ambassadorial residence. Some people who had fled outside without their overcoats found shelter in the embassy snack bar, located in a separate building off the courtyard, and therefore considered safe.

But it was soon packed and many shivered in the cold March weather for an hour and a half until the main building had been declared safe. The delayed luncheons were warmed up and served, and life gradually returned to normal.

This second scare came as a surprise. Russians I spoke to deplored the first one. One responsible official said that such tactics, far from serving as a reprisal for the harassment of Soviet staff in New York, simply played into the hands of the presidential candidates, Mr Ronald Reagan and Senator Henry Jackson.

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هكذا من الأصل

/ERSEAS

lakarios-Denktash terviews both deal ith leadership issue

Edward Mortimer
a, March 30
Archbishop Makarios, resident of Cyprus, and uf Denktash, the Turkish e leader, have said in te interviews with *The* that they would be to consider standing if this would make a ient of the Cyprus con- asier.

ibishop Makarios also at any further talk of (union with Greece) was ely unrealistic and criticized Britain for re- g inactive when Turkey d Cyprus in 1974.

Denktash said he was not to submit proposals for lement of the conflict e proposals submitted Greek side unofficially ek were neither realistic easonable. The Greek enies having made any als.

e were the replies Pre- Makarios gave to my ns in his office today. fany Cypriots say that should have intervened ily to restore you to cos after the Sampson coup cos Sampson, newspaper er and former guer- ader, is awaiting trial on of complicity in the overthrow Archbishop os in July, 1974 and ds would have averted rkish invasion. British rs say that, at that time, ecifically advised them intervene militarily. Is ie?

I would not have liked itary intervention by to restore me to power. ess of this, no inten- a British military in- on was indicated and, ently, there was no r me to advise against ntervention. This, of does not mean that as one of the guaran- wers, should have re- inactive when Turkey, ie coup as pretext, in- Cyprus.

Callaghan (the Foreign y), said last month Britain had exercised ht to act unilaterally ie Treaty of Guarantee, ld have felt obliged to the constitution as it ore 1963. In your view, his have been desirable ble?

true that some of the ns of our constitution mpeding the smooth ing of the state ry and I submitted to kish Cypriot leadership ls for some constitu- harges, but in no case e Greek-Cypriot side the validity of the nstitution, or attempt to unilaterally. Therefore, ion by Britain under the of Guarantee to restore stitution as it was before uld have been desirable Greek Cypriot side. I that even now, if both cept the 1960 *constitu-* still valid, this would easier to settle the pre- isis.

ou still see *enosis* with as the eventual destiny Greek Cypriot, or have w renounced this even ream?

ould be completely un- c to talk of *enosis* after up and the Turkish n.

v do you expect the re- between church and state to develop in Cyprus after the end of your presidency?

A. Despite the fact that today an archbishop happens to be President, the church and the state have always been distinctly separated and I hope that this will continue in future. Also my being President has nothing to do with my being a churchman. I have been elected by people not because of my archiepiscopal position, but because I enjoyed the confidence of people who wanted me to offer my services from the Presidency. Under our constitution, clergymen do not enjoy any privileged position vis à vis the other citizens of the republic.

Q. Many Turkish Cypriots believe that no settlement of the Cyprus problem is possible so long as you are President. Do you think you can win back their confidence or do you feel that, in certain circumstances, you could contribute to an acceptable settlement by stepping down?

A. For the solution of the Cyprus problem and the restoration of peace in Cyprus, I would be prepared not only to resign from the Presidency but also to sacrifice my life. I would be happy if the Turkish Cypriots submitted proposals contributing to the settlement of the Cyprus problem, even *on condition that I would step down.*

Mr Denktash, in the official residence in the Turkish sector of Nicosia which he occupies as Vice-President of the Cyprus Republic and as President of the de facto Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, referred to a recent book by a Greek Cypriot Zenon Stavrinides, and said: "He suggests, in one of his pages, that the leader who has done all this to Turks, Makarios, should really go. I agree with that wholeheartedly. He goes further and says the leader who did all this on the Turkish side to Greeks, Denktash, he should also go. I do not agree with that, but if that would solve the problem, I would be able to consider it."

Mr Denktash said that more than 12 times in the past 12 weeks he had proposed a joint statement ruling out both *enosis* and partition, but so far without positive response from *the Greek side. He added:* "This must be said to these people, openly, clearly, in simple words, *enosis* was a non-starter, was wrong and has brought destruction.

"Let us tell them that we do not want *enosis*, that *enosis* shall never be. We shall maintain our republic, our bi-communal, dinational independence. Say this: 'If this is your policy, why can't you say it?'"

Mr Denktash agreed, however, that both the coup and the Turkish invasion had had a big effect on Greek Cypriot opinion on this point.

On the intercommunal negotiations, Mr Denktash said he was not ready to submit proposals because he had not yet had proposals from the Greek side to which he could reply. He said it had been agreed at the last round of talks in Vienna that the Greek side would submit proposals first and, within 10 days, he would give his counterproposals.

ngkong to see more link h Navy end

Our Correspondent
ong, March 30.

gkong's last long-range ith the Royal Navy will vered tomorrow when, the new garrison reduc- greement, HMS Chiches- a 21-year-old, 2,400-ton , bids farewell to the r.

Chichester has been ong's solitary Royal guardship for the past years. With her depar- on a leisurely round the return to Portsmouth in middle of July, Naval sentation in the Colony e reduced to five coastal craft.

mmander R. P. Warwick, rigate's Captain, recalled that more than 200 fam- of the crew had lived in Colony for the past three and that 49 of their ren had been born here. d the Chichester not been Kongkong last May, many e 4,000 refugees who fled Saigon on board a crip- Danish cargo ship would died.

Canberra clash over Rockefeller visit

Canberra, March 30.—About 150 people twice clashed with the police in Canberra tonight as they tried to attack the United States Embassy and then the Australian Prime Minister's lodge in protest against a visit by Vice-President Rockefeller. One person was arrested.

The demonstrators, mostly university students, held a rally in the Canberra City area before marching to the embassy. They then ran towards the residence of Mr Fraser, the Prime Minister. The police struggled with them as Mr Rockefeller arrived to dinner.

Mr Rockefeller told a press conference that the United States would match a Soviet naval expansion in the Indian Ocean with a presence that would be "flexible, strong and on a permanent basis". He said: "If we believe in freedom, we must have the will, capacity and determination to make tough decisions to preserve that freedom".—Reuter.

hinese split by arguments 1 economic strategy

n David Bonavia
ng, March 30

ina is in the extraordinary tion of a socialist country ch has embarked on the year of its fifth five-year without publicly disclos- any targets and with bitter ments about its whole tegy apparently raging ind the scenes.

fr Teng Hsiao-ping, the uty Prime Minister, has n publicly accused of trying make the plan too depen- t on imports of foreign hnology, and Mr Li Hsien- n, the Politburo member marily responsible for eco- ic affairs, has not been n in public since January.

'oreign commercial counsel- s and businessmen in Pek- are reporting normal trad- with Chinese officials ning up promptly for meet- s. A cancellation of nego- ting sessions are often a n that extra political meet- s are being held.

Mr Teng—still unnamed in the press but denounced by name in thousands of wall posters—is accused of having promoted a policy of "production first" and "being a slave to things foreign".

He is also accused—and this an unusual indictment—of having tried to set the central and local authorities against each other. The balance of central and local administration in China has been one of its great strengths in recent economic construction.

Mr Teng is also said to have gone against the idea of "walking on two legs" (combining modern technology with old-fashioned production methods) and of having called for "dictatorship by statute".

These accusations are very wide-ranging. They point to far more fundamental policy differences in China than those regarding education, research, literature and art on which the campaign against Mr Teng has relied mainly so far.

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PROPERTY also on pages 10 and 11

SPORT

Racing

Fair Kitty weighted to make successful return to Catterick

By Michael Seely

Malton has become the latest training centre to lay down an all-weather gallop. Pat Rohan, who manages affairs, told me that the strip was completed on March 1 after work lasting several months; 1,360 metres or six furlongs in length, the materials used consist of a base of small stones on top of which is placed a layer of synthetic fibre. The final surface is made up of wood shavings, about £3,000 worth at £16 a ton.

The total cost amounting to £9,000 was paid by the trainers who use the facilities. All concerned think that every penny has been well spent, as for the past month the going has been too firm on the rest of the training ground. What worries Rohan is how they are going to earn the prize money to pay for their new acquisition. Some two-year-old races still earn the winning connexion only about £300. When you consider that £700 to £900 has already been spent just to find out if the animal is any good the plight of the small trainer can be appreciated.

At Catterick Bridge this afternoon Rohan runs Two For Joy in the Yarm Handicap. Although the six-year-old is fit from the winter game she may not be capable of giving 11 lb to another Malton-trained mare, Fair Kitty. Besides winning three novice hurdle races off the reel during the jumping season, Fair Kitty also ran with distinction in much better company behind Grand Canyon at Doncaster and Winter Melody at Chepstow.

Her shrewd handler, the former steeplechase jockey Jimmy Fitzgerald, points out Fair Kitty would be giving weight away over hurdles to those of her opponents who have been running under those rules. Probably the only horse sired by the champion hurdler Saucy Kit to have scored as a two-year-old over the sharp five furlongs at Catterick, the mare can make a successful return to the Yorkshire course today in the hands of that strong and capable lightweight rider Myrddin Thomas. Fair Kitty should be too good at these weights for such as Two For Joy, Caspardale, Tree Breeze and Kailash.

Another animal who has been running well over hurdles, Abergwiffy, can take the Whorlton Stakes.

Patrick Eddery and William Carson, who between them have monopolized the jockeys' championship during the past four seasons, were both in winning vein at Leicester yesterday. Eddery won the Burton Overy Stakes on Apres Demain to give Peter Walwyn his first success of 1976 and had earlier taken the Boscaby Maiden Fillies Stakes on Karella. Apres Demain, who ran lazily in the early stages, quickened in fine style when asked to go and win his race. He is entered in most of the good-class races this summer.

Karella is trained by Atty Corbett and belongs to Henry Loebstein, who won the 1963 Gimcrack Stakes with Talahasse. Eddery has now ridden three winners, but Carson, who also landed a double on Dellwood Prince and Mantop, is in the lead with five successes to his credit.

Teddington Park is raring to go

By Michael Phillips

Ian Balding and Dick Hern are bound to be watched closely in the months ahead to see how they fare with those members of the first crop of Mill Reef and Brigadier Gerard that they have in their care. For them this is an exciting time, because apart from the owners of the two great horses, the jockeys who rode them, and the lads who did them, no two men were more involved in their destiny.

This year Balding has four of the first crop of Mill Reef in his yard, and Hern has two of Brigadier Gerard's and two of Mill Reef's as well. At this stage of a season I usually think that there is little or no point in dwelling on two-year-olds whose names mean little as yet, but such was the contribution that both Mill Reef and Brigadier Gerard made at the start of the seventies, that I believe you are justified in pausing a second on their progeny before moving on to better known subjects.

Balding sees a lot of the character and looks of Mill Reef in three of the two-year-olds that he has by his equine hero. They are Teddington Park, Diamond Reef and Grain of Truth. The fourth, Silver Shoals, takes much more after her dam, apparently. Teddington Park, the 75,000-guinea colt out of Hecla, looks as though he can go and wants to go, and Balding believes that he will—perhaps as soon as May Day at Ascot. Mill Reef won his first race and, if looks are anything to go by, the bookmakers may not be prepared to lay long odds against Teddington Park doing likewise when he appears. He looks very, very racy indeed.

A win by Grain of Truth will be something of a fairy story come true. The sole reason why her owner, Paul Mellon, bought her dam, Village Gossip, was so she could be Mill Reef's test mare. Mill Reef's broken foreleg was on the mend and it was important to see first whether he could perform his duties. It mattered not that Village Gossip was of no account as a race mare, and that what she had bred already had achieved nothing.

The important thing was she was blessed with a lovely placid temperament, that she was a fertile mare, and that he should get her in foal. He duly did, and when the result was known Village Gossip was promptly washed out because the foal would have been born out of season. Later, Mr Mellon decided to let her be covered by Mill Reef again, and Grain of Truth is the product of that somewhat bizarre mating and a sweet product at that.

During the last few years we have come to realize that money is no object when Lady Beaverbrook wants a yearling. So the fireworks flew last autumn when the filly out of Dress Uniform and the colt out of Lalibela were on the market. On her behalf the BBA bid 50,000 guineas for the filly who is at Kingsclere and 202,000 guineas, a new European record, for the Lalibela colt, who is with Hern at West Ilsley. Named, not inappropriately, Million, the expensive colt is a rangy chestnut who will be given all the time that he needs to put on muscle, strengthen and develop to his frame.

Sunfish, the other Mill Reef at West Ilsley, looks as though he will come to hand earlier than Million. Owned by Sir Michael Sobell and Sir Arnold Weinstock, Sunfish is a half-brother to that good colt, Sun Prince, who did so well for them. Wychwood and Military March are the two two-year-olds by Brigadier Gerard that Hern has, and they are both fillies.

Wychwood seems to take more after her dam, Eastwood, than after her sire. Eastwood is a half-sister to that redoubtable stayer, Hornbeam, and not surprisingly she stayed, too. On the other hand, in Military March Hern sees many of the characteristics of Brigadier Gerard's family although she is a chestnut. Apparently she is a great mover.

Incidentally, I wrote yesterday that John Hislop's overall impression is that the first crop of Brigadier Gerard is better than the second. But, somewhere along the line, we got our wires crossed and in his opinion it is the opposite that is the case. If that is so, it augurs well for Brigadier Gerard's future.

You could really write a book about the two stables, but space prevents that. Apart from Mill Reef the hopes of Kingsclere rest this season on the three-year-old filly, Outer Circle—at least as far as winning a classic is concerned. That anyway is how Balding sees the picture. Talking in glowing terms about Outer Circle, he said: "She is far and away our best chance of winning a classic this year, I am sure of that. She looks a month ahead of everything else in the yard." And the 1,000 Guineas is the classic he is referring to.

Outer Circle has done extremely well during the winter, and she does look forward. In the circumstances it will be interesting to see how she fares when she meets Pasty, the current favourite for the Guineas in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury on April 9. Outer Circle finished just under two lengths behind Pasty in the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket last autumn, but Balding is convinced that we did not see the best of her that day.

Rowantree, Gilding, Memory Lane, and Key of the Kingdom are four other three-year-old fillies in the stable who are much above average and they will all have opportunities to prove themselves this spring, Gilding being the first at Ascot on Saturday. Galway Bay is perhaps the best three-year-old colt in the stable, and he will also get his chance to underline that at Ascot on Saturday in the 2,000 Guineas Trial.

An interesting addition to the string since last autumn is the American colt, Meritable, who was successful at Aqueduct and Belmont last season. He arrived at Kingsclere at Christmas, and even in the comparatively short time that he has been there Balding has formed a good opinion of him, although he admits that he is a desperately hard puller, which was why he was sent to this country to be trained. At present the idea is to loose Meritable off in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury and it will be interesting to see how he fares against the likes of Wollow.

In the talented four-year-old Dominion, who last season finished third in the 2,000 Guineas, Balding has another exciting addition to his string. Dominion used to be trained by Arthur Budgett, who has retired. He envisages running this handsome colt first in the Earl of Sefton Stakes at Newmarket, and then in the Lockinge Stakes at Newbury.

Last year Hern was forced to shut up shop early because many of his horses were affected by a virus. With hindsight he is certain that was the reason why Sea Anchor ran so badly in the St Leger. And it was the reason why he decided not to risk his promising, unbeaten two-year-old colt, Over To You, again after he had won the Solario Stakes at Sandown Park at the beginning of September.

Over To You is likely to reappear at Newmarket in the Craven Stakes which should give us an inkling as to whether he is fast enough to merit a tilt at the 2,000 Guineas or whether his connexions would be wiser to think about the Derby instead. Over To You has certainly thrived during the winter.

Another who has done conspicuously well physically is the lightly raced Aureole colt, Lighter, whose name went straight into my notebook after I had seen him. Lighter was only a frame of a horse last autumn, and he looks altogether different now. Being out of a Ragusa mare, he should stay well yet he had enough speed to finish second over only six furlongs in his only race as a two-year-old and that surely is a good sign. Lighter is owned by Mr R. D. Hollingsworth, who also bred him.

In Sea Anchor, who also comes from his renowned Felucca family, Mr Hollingsworth has a decent four-year-old who could excel in 1976 when racing over a mile and a half or a mile and three quarters. Sea Anchor has furnished at long last and developed into a really imposing individual. The John Porter Stakes and the Yorkshire Cup are likely to be on his agenda in the first half of the season.

Just as Sea Anchor was found to be off-colour, suffering from the rhino virus soon after the St Leger, so were both Riboboy and Relkino after they had run disappointingly in their last races. But both look hard and well again now and both will be seen out again soon, Relkino at Ascot and Riboboy, the last of the Ribots incidentally, at Sandown.

The Fred Darling Stakes should tell us whether or not the Queen's attractive Crepello filly, Crofting, is up to classic standard. She looked a nice filly when she won her only race last season at Newbury, but she only beat maidens that day. In the Fred Darling Stakes she will have to contend with Pasty and Outer Circle to name only two of those already earmarked for that trial.

Joe Mercer will be riding regularly for the two stables again this season, and although he no longer cares about the jockeys' championship, he still looks set fair for a good year, judged on what I saw when I looked round the two yards.

Sea Anchor: has developed into an imposing individual.

STATE OF GOING (official): Catterick Bridge: Good. Folkestone: Good to firm. Hereford: Firm. Tomorrow: Liverpool: Good. Teesside Park: Firm. Stratford-on-Avon: Hurdles course, firm; steeplechase course, good to firm.

Pocket Hercules should lift Peter Walwyn

By Jim Snow

Trainers and handicappers rarely see eye to eye about weights, and many sharp words are exchanged about horse assessment. "My fellow has not won a race for two years, has been beaten a couple of short heads in the last month under more than 9 st, and there he is still stuck on top with 9 st 3 lb in that handicap at York in three weeks time."

This is a typical complaint by a trainer, and with some justification, that the harder his horse tries, the more harshly he is treated in a handicap. The reason is, of course, the more consistently a horse runs up to his best form, the harder it is for the handicapper to bring him down in the weights.

But today at Folkestone Verley Bewicke will have no reason to object to the 7 st 7 lb his four-year-old, Under Orders, will carry in the Aldington Handicap. Nor will Michael Easterby quarrel with the 7 st 6 lb Peterhof will carry in tomorrow's new race at Liverpool, the £10,000 Littlewoods Spring Cup.

Indeed these two trainers might ask themselves what they have done to see their horses so well handicapped. The handicapper does not take into account the fact that Peterhof has run five times over hurdles, won four times and two weeks ago took the £10,000 Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham.

However, this afternoon at Folkestone it is hard to overlook the treatment of Under Orders. The four-year-old, trained formerly in Ireland, had some good form on the flat. At Cagnes-sur-Mer he did not idle away his winter, and although he did not win a race he was twice placed to a top class sprinter, Hillandale, and was meeting him at level weights. Although the five furlongs at Folkestone might be a little sharp for him, he is very much the form horse.

In the £1,300 Privy Councillor Guineas Trial Stakes it could be a finish between Peter Walwyn's Pocket Hercules and Douglas Marks's Asa Yolson. Belgium's top two-year-old prize last year went to Asa Yolson, and later, in September, he won Britain's most valuable nursery handicap, the John Sutcliffe Trophy, over seven furlongs at Lingfield Park by a short head. However, Pocket Hercules is slightly preferred. In two races as a two-year-old he won at Brighton and later finished not far out at Doncaster's St Leger meeting.

National fees to rise by £50

It will cost £200 to run in next season's Grand National a rise of £50 from next Saturday's big Liverpool Steeplechase. This is one of the altered conditions announced by John Hughes, the clerk of the course, yesterday.

The closing date for next year's race, January 12, is some five weeks earlier, and there will be two forfeit stages instead of one. The condition for qualifying for the National in the Maryland Hunt Cup, has been altered to include "the first, second or third in that race". The 37 four-day acceptors for Saturday's race are:

Red Rum, The Dikler, Glanford Brig, Money Market, High Ken, Rag Trade, Highway View, Notification, Roman Bar, Golden Rapper, Eyecatcher, Barona, Geol-Na-Mara, Churchtown Boy, Perrol, Prolan, Credit Call, Jolly's Clump, Merry Maker, Tregarron, Black Tudor, Nereo, Colondine, Huperade, Otter Way, Spanish Steps, Meridian II, Sandwilan, Tudor View, Straight Vulcan, Vaulgh Town, Ballybright, Sandy's Image, Indian Diva, Thomond, Boom Docker and Ormonde Tudor.

Horse trials

Collins chased round Windsor by his wife

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

With the dressage and the show jumping phases of the Midland Bank open intermediate class behind him, Christopher Collins is leading the field at the Windsor Horse Trials. Riding Radway, he is lying four points ahead of his wife, Suzanne, on Waterught. Third place is shared by Captain Malcolm Wallace on Eastern Promise and Barbara Hammond on Eagle Rock.

Captain Wallace has, however, decided not to risk Eastern Promise across country today. The going in the Great Park, which last year was so wet that the two-day event had to be reduced to a one-day event, without the steeplechase phase, is exceedingly hard, particularly so on the steeplechase course, and it seems likely that there will be more withdrawals overnight.

Princess Anne, the president of the trials, has also withdrawn Mardi Gras, who was lying fifth after the dressage, but did not compete in the show jumping as she was not going quite level. Only a few days ago, the Princess had to pull out of Badminton because both her entries were lame.

Windsor always suffers somewhat from its proximity to Badminton, which starts in six days time, and this is obviously so in Olympic year. But there is nevertheless a strong entry among the 119 engaged in this official two-day event, whose speed and endurance phase takes place today.

OPEN INTERMEDIATE (placings after dressage and showjumping): 1, C. D. Collins's Radway (32 dressage penalties, 0 show jumping); 2, Mrs C. D. Collins's Waterught (36, 0); equal 3, R. Norris's Eastern Promise (Captain M. C. R. Wallace) and Mrs R. C. A. Hammond's Eagle Rock (52.0).

INTERMEDIATE SECTION A: 1, S. Morrison's Waterwheel (Miss R. Dereck) (25.0); 2, Miss S. Moule's Brer Fox (27.0); 3, Mrs S. Howard's Warrior (Mrs T. D. Holderness-Roddam) (29.0).

INTERMEDIATE SECTION B: 1, Mrs D. E. Biden's Little Tot (Miss P. Biden) (37.0); 2, C. J. Marino's Midnight Monk (42.0); 3, Colonel and Mrs G. L. Wathen's Wiligi (Lt J. R. C. Wathen) (43.0).

Just Tom this side of the fence, Mrs Buxton the other.

Athletics

Pascoe's theoretic steps on a path to seclusion

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

Six interviews in two days would hardly seem to be the best way for an Olympic "gold medal hope" to keep off the pressure. But Alan Pascoe, last year voted the most cooperative sportsman by the Sports Photographers Association, is deliberately indulging the news media now so that they will have no complaints when he withdraws into almost monastic seclusion, later in Olympic year.

"On July 5", says Pascoe, "I plan to leave Britain with my coach, George Tymms, and my training partner, Bill Hartley, and find somewhere completely private, perhaps in the United States, where we shall stay until just before the Games open on July 17. Indeed, we may not arrive in Montreal until July 16. No one is going to know where we are because that's the time when you can't allow yourself to think about anything but the competition for which I've been working for 12 years."

On April 8, Pascoe and Hartley will go to the Italian seaside training camp at Formia and prepare there until April 21. His first competition, he hopes, will be the 4 x 400 metres relay (not the 400 metres hurdles) for Britain against East Germany and Yugoslavia at Split on May 2. Then he looks to flat 300 metres races, to improve speed, in Milan and Coatbridge, before a 300 metres hurdles race at Birmingham on May 15.

The European and Commonwealth champion's first 400 metres hurdles race will be against Russia in Kiev on May 22 followed by a 400 metres hurdles, in his own Borough Road College meeting, at Crystal Palace on May 26. He and Hartley have asked that their event should be in the first of the two Kraft Games (virtually the British trials), at Crystal Palace on June 5.

That is so they can race against the reigning Olympic champion and world record holder, John Akii-Bua of Uganda, in Munich on June 12. Their last hurdles before the Olympics competition will be for Britain against Poland at Crystal Palace on July 3 and 4.

These are theoretic steps ahead for no one knows better than Pascoe that injury or some almost inexplicable loss of form can ruin the best laid plans. In the meantime he has unpaid leave of absence from his work as a lecturer at Borough Road College—though he still lectures there once a week—so that he can lift tons of iron and indulge in "sheltering" training sessions with Hartley whenever his British rival and friend makes the journey down from Liverpool.

Pascoe still keeps a sense of balance about the whole adventure with almost as much ease as he handles a pint of shandy after training. He is enthusiastic about his position on the Sports Council and the BBC advisory council, he has been known to relax at jazz sessions at Ronnie Scott's club and he is handy about the house in his Isleworth home.

CAPE TOWN: International meeting: 1,500 metres: D. Bialan, 3min 39.0sec. 3, B. Smith (GB); 400 metres hurdles, 1, A. Smith, 51sec; 2, C. O'Neil (GB). Discus: 1, J. van Rechen, 61.18 metres; 3, P. Dickenson (GB). Hammer: 1, A. Barnard, 73.58 metres; 2, P. Dickenson (GB). Women: 200 metres: 1, R. Van Den Berg, 23.8sec; 2, H. Golden (GB). 400 metres: 1, C. Elder (GB), 52.7sec; 2, L. Barnes (GB). 800 metres: 1, A. De Jager, 2min 6.2sec; 2, D. Murray (GB), 2min 7.8sec. 100 metres hurdles: 1, I. van Rensburg, 13.2sec; 2, L. Sutherland (GB), 13.5sec. 1,500 metres: 1, S. Lawton, 4min 17.5sec.

Rackets

Marlborough keep winning

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Marlborough, improving with each match played, put out the second seeds, Harrow, and reached the final of the schools rackets championship for the first time since 1962, at Queen's Club yesterday. They will meet the holders, Malvern, who beat Eton, this afternoon.

The Marlborough pair, D. K. Watson and M. N. P. Mockridge, beat the Harrovians, A. C. S. Pigott and R. M. Tindall, two left-handers, by 15—4, 17—14, 15—5, 15—11 in much the same way as they had bustled Malvern II out of court in the previous round. This time, however, they had stronger opposition and it needed Mockridge, the lesser player in previous matches, to be at his best.

Malvern's win over Eton—P. C. Nicholls and M. A. Tang, beating H. R. Murray-Philipson and R. M. J. O. Graham by 15—5, 8—15, 11—15, 15—7, 15—11, 15—5—was not quite of such high standard though more exciting when the losers led by two games to one. Up to that moment Graham's play at the front of the backhand court was outstanding and Malvern were living largely on Tang's steadiness and the occasional winner from Nicholls.

The crucial game was the fifth in which Eton, recovering from 1—9, led 11—9. Here the powerful Nicholls played his full part.

RESULTS: Schools rackets championship: Semi-final round: Malvern (P. C. Nicholls and M. A. Tang) beat Eton (H. R. Murray-Philipson and R. M. J. O. Graham), 15—5, 8—15, 11—15, 15—7, 15—11, 15—5; Marlborough (D. K. Watson and M. N. P. Mockridge) beat Harrow (A. C. S. Pigott and R. M. Tindall), 15—4, 17—14, 15—5, 15—11.

Folkestone programme

1.45 SHORNCLIFFE STAKES (3-y-o: £487: 1¼m)

3 000000- Ballycall (A. Stevens), Stevens, 9-0 .... S. Perks 2
5 0- Beau Hussar (S. Crowe), S. Ingham, 9-0 .... S. Ramshaw 1
8 000- Cold Justice (Miss M. Robins), G. Benstead, 9-0 B. Rouse 11
9 040001- Doris's Choice (E. Breadhurst-Huggins), D. Underwood, 9-0 J. Curant 6
10 0- Double Love (Dr C. Labrecciosa), B. Hanbury, 9-0 B. Raymond 9
12 00- Free Cossack (D. Lemos), M. Masson, 9-0 .... G. Baxter 7
17 00- Jarullah (Mrs A. Ewing), C. Hunter, 9-0 .... T. Bridge 12
18 March Morning (S. Tudor), R. Supple, 9-0 R. Wernham 5
19 Oisin (A. Bodie), G. Harwood, 9-0 .... G. Starkey 3
21 00030- Past History (Mrs J. Mayles), R. Smyth, 9-0 .... E. Eldin 10
22 00- Tsinan (Mrs F. Nagle), Mrs F. Nagle, 9-0 .... M. Kettle 13
25 Beaujolais Darisio (Mrs D. Dear), L. Holt, 8-11 L. Wilkins 8
29 00- Hello Love (T. Powell), J. O'Donoghue, 8-11 P. O'Leary 4

7-2 Double Love, 4-1 Oisin, 9-2 Beau Hussar, 6-1 Free Cossack, 8-1 Past History, 10-1 Doris's Choice, 12-1 Jarullah, March Morning, 14-1 others.

2.15 ALKHAM HANDICAP (£337: 6f)

1 200000- Parbleu (D) (A. Stevens), Stevens, 7-10-0 .... P. Millman 7 6
2 010030- Red Counsel (Mrs O. Nicholls), R. Supple, 5-7-10 P. Eddery 4
3 330400- Straight Cue (G. Balding), Balding, 5-9-6 .... J. Curant 3
5 030000- Klairede (Mrs C. Grainger), D. Marks, 4-8-5 G. Baxter 1
6 200000- Zipperdi-Doo-Dah (F. Turner), G. Benstead, 4-8-3 B. Rouse 8
8 000400- Perfect Marriage (D) (J. Mead), P. Calver, 5-8-2 F. Durr 7
9 000000- Double Twenty (A. Johnson), M. Goswell, 4-7-12 R. Reader 2
11 Martello Pirate (J. Howard), R. Sturdy, 6-7-7 J. Reid 5
12 Psomma (R. Weston), R. Sturdy, 7-7-7 9

9-4 Parbleu, 7-1 Red Counsel, 9-2 Straight Cue, 6-1 Klairede, 8-1 Perfect Marriage, 14-1 Zipperdi-Doo-Dah, 16-1 others.

2.45 PRIVY COUNCILLOR STAKES (3-y-o: £1,177: 7f)

1 1411- Asa Yolson (D) (J. Tarbuck), D. Marks, 9-3 .... G. Baxter 1
5 10- Pocket Hercules (F. Hue-Williams), P. Walwyn, 8-12 P. Eddery 7
6 00- Burma Pink (M. Peralticos), G. Harwood, 8-7 G. Starkey 4
8 30- Egalaloon (D. Lomos), M. Masson, 8-7 .... A. Bond 2
10 00- Premier Bond (S. Fox), R. Supple, 8-4 .... R. Wernham 5

4-5 Asa Yolson, 3-1 Pocket Hercules, 7-2 Burma Pink, 7-1 Egalaloon, 50-1 Premier Bond.

3.15 ALDINGTON HANDICAP (£616: 5f)

1 430- Maxi's Taxi (CD) (Mrs K. Grob), M. Masson, 6-9-9 A. Bond 8
3 000003- Balidon (D) (H. Joel), G. Harwood, 6-9-4 G. Starkey 2
5 341421- Nantucket (CD) (P. Goulandris), Miss A. Sinclair, 4-9-3 E. Eldin 1
6 400000- Paul Alison (D) (A. David), A. Pitt, 4-8-11 G. Ramshaw 4
8 00130- Cortown Lady (D) (A. Williams), D. Weeden, 3-8-3 G. Sexton 3
11 403100- Vilgora (D) (A. Stevens), Stevens, 4-8-0 .... S. Perks 5
14 010000- Haberdasher (D) (Sir B. Waley-Cohen), G. P.-Hoblyn, 4-7-13 P. Waldron 6
15 Aunt Peggy (Mrs V. O'Brien), J. Long, 4-7-10 .... —
16 01-2002 Under Orders (E. Peskin), C. Bewicke, 4-7-7 .... J. Reid 3 7

7-1 Under Orders, 7-2 Balidon, 4-1 Nantucket, 5-1 Maxi's Taxi, 7-1 Vilgora, 10-1 Haberdasher, 12-1 others.

3.45 KINGSNORTH HANDICAP (£860: 1¼m)

1 033030- Noble Bay (Mrs H. Joel), G. Harwood, 4-10-0 G. Starkey 3
2 000300- Reine Beau (C) (M. Vine), E. Becson, 6-9-11 .. A. Bond 4
3 2240- Supreme Halo (Miss S. Rampton), R. Smyth, 6-9-5 E. Eldin 3
5 312130- Warbeck (Sir P. Oppenheimer), H. Wragg, 4-9-2 P. Eddery 10
6 000020- Court Circus (CD) (R. Muddle), B. Hanbury, 6-8-11 R. Muddle 7 2
7 122013- Outrage (CD) (Mrs F. Tower), G. Harwood, 6-8-8 M. Stiff 7 7
8 004411- Eric Stuart (C. Mitchell), L. Holt, 4-8-7 Ron Hutchinson 9
11 012100- French Harmony (A. Finch), D. Underwood, 4-8-3 J. Curant 5
13 000310- Bustling (CD) (Mrs F. Nagle), Mrs F. Nagle, 5-7-7 D. Maitland 1
17 300000- Collaborator (W. Mann), A. Pitt, 4-7-7 .... L. Jenkinson 5 6

11-4 Eric Stuart, 7-2 Outrage, 9-2 Warbeck, 5-1 Supreme Halo, 8-1 Noble Bay, 10-1 Court Circus, 12-1 French Harmony, 16-1 others.

4.15 HEADCORN STAKES (2-y-o: maidens: £445: 5f)

1 Cambridge Star (Mrs P. Yong), W. O'Gorman, 9-0 P. Eddery 7
2 Cool Cat (Mrs V. Pritchard-Gordon), R. Smyth, 9-0 P. Cheese 5 8
4 Maori Warrior (A. Beckman), C. Hunter, 9-0 .... T. Bridge 2
6 Raffin's Boy (K. Girling), R. Hannon, 9-0 .... F. Durr 1
10 Blue Linnet (H. Joel), S. Ingham, 8-11 .... G. Ramshaw 5
13 Maid For Two (Mrs P. Thorpe), S. Ingham, 8-11 R. Muddle 7 6
14 Massmart (J. Bears), R. Supple, 8-11 .... R. Wernham 5 4
18 Sweet No (Mrs R. Newton), M. Masson, 8-11 .... A. Bond 9
19 Sylvias Star (G. Dawes), P. Ashworth, 8-11 .... B. Rouse 3

13-8 Blue Linnet, 11-4 Raffin's Boy, 9-2 Cool Cat, 7-1 Sylvias Star, 10-1 Maid for Two, 14-1 Massmart, 16-1 others.

Folkestone selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.45 Beau Hussar. 2.15 Perfect Marriage. 2.45 Pocket Hercules. 3.15 UNDER ORDERS is specially recommended. 3.45 Supreme Halo. 4.15 Raffin's Boy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
1.45 Double Love. 3.45 Warbeck. 4.15 Cambridge Star.

Catterick Bridge programme

2.30 FORCETT PARK HANDICAP (£350: 7f)

2 043000- Gipsey Lass (J. Hardy), Hardy, 5-9-5 .... C. Moss 3
3 003300- Royal Tanner (T. Kersey), Kersey, 5-9-3 .... D. Nichols 5 6
5 3000- Look North (Mrs F. Dickinson), J. Harris, 4-9-2 A. Senior 8
6 223140- Isomer (G. Tufts), R. Carter, 4-8-9 .... E. Hide 9
10 000000- Solo Spy (F. Akeroyd), F. Wiles, 4-8-5 .... L. C. Parkes 2
11 140000- Solar Crescent (CD) (J. Croft), D. Doyle, 4-8-3 S. Webster 5 4
12 00000- Palaestrina (M. Taylor), K. Payne, 3-8-2 .... T. Lappin 1
14 000400- Airways (A. Malden), S. Nesbitt, 4-8-1 .... E. Johnson 3
15 000- Aces High (Mrs S. Alston), K. Stapleton, 4-7-9 S. Salmon 3 10
16 00000-0 Narita Mani Poum (R. Simpson), B. Richmond, 4-7-7 M. Wigham 7 5

9-4 Solar Crescent, 11-4 Gypsy Last, 9-2 Airways, 6-1 Isomer, 8-1 Narita Mani Poum, 10-1 Palaestrina, 12-1 Aces High, 14-1 Look North, 16-1 others.

3.0 ORAN STAKES (2-y-o: £354: 5f)

2 Balsarroch Lady (G. Brown), E. Carr, 7-13 .. J. Moore 7 8
3 Hedge School (D. Smith), Denys Smith, 7-13 L. Charnock 5 3
4 0 Solchella (R. Harness), R. Stubbs, 7-13 .... M. Thomas 7
6 Westwood Boy (R. Wilson), W. Gray, 7-13 .... E. Apter 2
10 Whenby (J. Mason), M. W. Easterby, 7-13 .... E. Hide 4
11 Wrays Meadow (D. Murton), G. Blum, 7-13 T. McKeown 3
12 Divine Sunshine (G. Rivett), W. Wharton, 7-10 R. Middleton 5 6
13 Kathalinka (K. Watmough), J. Turner, 7-10 C. Eccleston 2
15 Wagon Lady (N. Heslop), M. W. Easterby, 7-10 T. Walsh 7 1

3-1 Divine Sunshine, 7-2 Balsarroch Lady, 4-1 Solchella, 5-1 Whenby, 6-1 Westwood Boy, 8-1 Wagon Lady, 10-1 Hedge School, 12-1 Kathalinka, 16-1 Wrays Meadow.

3.30 FAVERDALE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £674: 1¼m)

1 000312- Cartridge Speed (Mrs R. Carson), Denys Smith, 9-7 A. Barclay 1
2 01033- Move Off (W. Barker), J. Calvert, 8-13 .... S. Freeman 7 2
3 000- Kuanu (Sir R. Cohen), Doug Smith, 8-9 .... J. Seagrave 4
4 032000- Mr Marisbridge (P. Stallon), K. Payne, 8-8 .. A. Cousins 5
5 010010- Short Term (J. Hardy), Hardy, 8-6 .... C. Moss 6
6 0004- Ossulton (D. Lowry), W. Payne, 8-2 .... T. Lappin 7
7 400041- Chanda (W. Best), J. Vickers, 8-1 .... S. Salmon 3 3

2-1 Cartridge Speed, 11-4 Move Off, 5-1 Short Term, 8-1 Mr Marisbridge, 10-1 Chanda, 12-1 Kuanu, 16-1 Ossulton.

4.0 TOYTOP STAKES (2-y-o: £409: 5f)

3 Jameson (J. Ashby), W. Wharton, 8-11 .... F. Morby 2
4 Jolly Joe (M. Taylor), K. Payne, 8-11 .... W. Bentley 3
7 Silver Seal (Mrs E. Scott), N. Adam, 8-11 B. Clotworthy 7 4
9 Tin Miner (Lord Grimthorpe), M. W. Easterby, 8-11 E. Hide 1

5-4 Tin Miner, 9-4 Jameson, 4-1 Jolly Joe, 6-1 Silver Seal.

4.30 YARM HANDICAP (£517: 1m 7f 180yd)

2 400100- Enryco Mieo (H. Zeisel), K. Payne, 4-9-9 .... S. Eccles 7 4
3 122243- Scutari (T. Mansfield), F. Carr, 4-9-5 .... C. Dwyer 3
5 244103- Tamashoon (Mrs T. Fagan), P. Mitchell, 4-9-1 .... B. Jago 12
6 012300- St Tryst (Miss C. Ramsden), N. Crump, 4-9-0 .. T. Lappin 10
7 030040- Tree Breeze (C) (W. Barker), Miss S. Hall, 5-9-0 O. Gray 9
8 04410- Caspardale (R. Parker), G. Richards, 5-8-12 .... E. Hide 3
9 00010- Ingham (S. Nesbitt), Nesbitt, 4-8-10 .... A. Crook 7 7
10 23- Two for Joy (F. Mumford-Smith), H. Rohan, 6-8-9 J. Seagrave 6
11 400212- Caravan Centre (CD) (W. Stoker), W. Gray, 4-8-6 E. Apter 11
13 430420- Sounds Good (Miss K. Allan), Denys Smith, 4-8-1 L. Charnock 5 1
14 0- Fair Kitty (C) (A. Milner), J. Fitzgerald, 5-7-12 M. Thomas 8
16 0400- Kailash (A. Rand), H. Blackshaw, 7-7-10 .... C. Eccleston 2

7-2 Tamashoon, 9-2 Sounds Good, 6-1 Caspardale, Scutari, 8-1 Caravan Centre, 10-1 Enryco Mieo, 12-1 Ingham, St Tryst, 16-1 Two for Joy, 20-1 Tree Breeze, Fair Kitty, 25-1 Kailash.

5.0 WHORLTON STAKES (£326: 1m 5f 180yd)

1 434400- Abergwiffy (Mrs J. Matthews), M. Camacho, 4-9-7 E. Johnson 5
2 0000- Appersett (W. Wilkin), Denys Smith, 4-9-7 .... A. Barclay 10
3 020223- Genovese (F. Jackson), F. Carr, 4-9-7 .... C. Dwyer 2
4 340204- Humpty Dumpty (J. Coventry), G. Richards, 4-9-7 .. E. Hide 7
8 00020- Upper Echelon (A. Hanley), J. Mulhall, 4-9-7 S. Salmon 3 6
9 00000- Cold Cream (H. Blackshaw), Blackshaw, 4-9-4 M. Nuttall 7 8
10 033033- Misty Joanne (Mrs B. Hunt), V. Mitchell, 4-9-4 M. Thomas 12
11 000423- Smiling (S. Spokes), W. Wharton, 4-9-4 .... F. Morby 1
12 Lorrama (S. Addy), J. Hardy, 3-8-0 .... C. Moss 8
13 00300- Thatched House Lad (L. Rawcliffe), M. Naughton, 3-8-0 J. Lowe 9
14 030000- Katie Grey (J. Hurst), R. Titterington, 5-7-11 K. Lewis 5 11
15 000000- Weigh-in-First (A. Malden), D. Plant, 5-7-11 S. Roulker 7 4

5-2 Humpty Dumpty, 3-1 Genovese, 5-1 Misty Joanne, 7-1 Smiling, 8-1 Abergwiffy, 10-1 Appersett, 12-1 Lorrama, 14-1 Thatched House Lad, 16-1 others.

Catterick Bridge selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.30 Airways. 3.0 Whenby. 3.30 Move Off. 4.0 Tin Miner. 4.30 FAIR KITTY is specially recommended. 5.0 Abergwiffy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
3.0 Wrays Meadow.

Hereford programme

2.0 KINGSTONE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £578: 2½m)

2 120033 Thankyouverymuch (C) (Mrs B. Lloyd), A. Jarvis, 7-11-5 P. Blacker
4 20113p Headmaster (D) (R. Barrett), D. Barons, 9-10-12 B. R. Davies
5 134200 Noble Hero (D) (M. Marsh), Marsh, 9-10-8 .... M. Gifford
6 0p01f4 Easy Runner (Mrs J. Olivant), Olivant, 9-10-7 .. Mr Robbs 5
8 040414 *Tenspir (D) (Ld Leverhulme), F. Cundell, 7-10-6 .... —
9 221231 Sixer (CD) (G. Clay), Clay, 12-10-5 .... P. Warner
12 pp041p Ross Royal (CD) (G. Langford), J. Peacock, 8-10-0 .. R. Crank

2-1 Sixer, 3-1 Headmaster, 4-1 Noble Hero, 11-2 Thankyouverymuch, 8-1 Easy Runner, 12-1 Ross Royal.

2.30 DONNINGTON STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £408: 2m)

4 0x3102 Topping (D) (L. Dowman), K. Ivory, 5-11-5 .... A. Ball 7
6 03433f- Arctic Chorus (Lt-Col W. Whetherly), F. Turnell, 6-11-3 A. Turnell 7
7 20000pp Black Ace (A. Souch), Souch, 6-11-3 .... H. Barrett 7
8 000u0p Border Larck (Mrs O. Havard), J. Peacock, 6-11-3 Mr Wilding 7
9 0p00f0 Chiltern Hill (K. Lewis), Lewis, 6-11-3 .... Mr Thomas 7
11 03p400 David's City (Miss E. Isaacson), W. Guest, 6-11-3 .. Joe Guest
12 000p0-0 John Boy (R. Pilkington), M. Kuloran, 6-11-3 .. John Williams
15 323204 Village Thief (A. Lyle), R. Head, 6-11-3 .... J. Francome
16 0- What (W. Kelly), W. Jelly, 6-11-3 .... D. Sunderland
20 0-f0000 Pee Wee (A. Armstrong), S. Brookshaw, 5-10-10 .. Mr Barry 7
21 0-00f00 Petroleum (Admin of late P. Blackburn), Miss Morris, 5-10-10 N. Wakley
22 202f3-0 Roc Imp (J. Spooner), J. Bradley, 5-10-10 .... —
23 101800 Roncorn (Mrs P. Cole), J. Harris, 5-10-10 .... P. Kelly 7
24 00pp0p Tartan Eve (R. Scandrett), J. Edwards, 5-10-10 .. Mr Crocker 7

5-2 Topping, 7-2 Village Thief, 5-1 Arctic Chorus, 7-1 Roncorn, 8-1 Petroleum, 10-1 Roc Imp, 12-1 Border Larck, 14-1 David's City, 20-1 others.

3.0 LITTLE BIRCH HURDLE (Handicap: £578: 2m)

2 310120 Doodle Bug (D) (C. Lees), S. Holland, 5-11-9 .... S. Holland
3 12020o Favedo (D) (Mrs A. Tudor), R. Akehurst, 7-11-8 .... J. King
4 000100 Croome (D) (Mrs G. Phipps), D. Barons, 6-11-3 .... K. White
5 1-00200 Grass Hand (D) (K. Underwood), D. Morley, 6-11-5 B. R. Davies
6 000020 Cornmarket (D) (Power Packing Services Ltd), L. Kennard, 6-11-1 W. Smith
7 p0121-0 Nelson Boy (A. Darlington), D. Barons, 6-10-12 D. Cartwright
9 032000 Culberge (D) (A. Greig), I. Wardle, 5-10-8 .. S. Smith-Eccles 5
10 0ff004 Yachtsman (D) (A. Perry), Perry, 6-10-6 .... Mr Docker 3
11 400000 Master Scorchin (D) (R. Cookson), M. Tate, 5-10-6 .. R. Evans
12 000003 Falcons Boy (D) (P. Arnold), M. Salaman, 5-10-1 M. Salaman
15 024030 Bills Bounty (K. Dudfield), S. Wright, 7-10-0 .... R. Hyett
16 324004 Second Hand (CD) (D. Hill), T. Taylor, 6-10-0 .... M. Gifford
17 303p00 Thomas Edward (J. Thomas), J. Bradley, 7-10-0 John Williams
19 3- Haggis (CD) (B. Cambidge), Cambidge, 11-10-0 Mr Cambidge 7

4-1 Doodle Bug, 5-1 Falcons Boy, 6-1 Grass Hand, 7-1 Cornmarket, 8-1 Second Hand, 9-1 Culberge, 10-1 Bills Bounty, 13-1 Nelson Boy, 14-1 Croome, 16-1 Master Scorchin, 20-1 others.

3.30 CREDENHILL STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £571: 2m)

7 2-2224r Master Eye (D) (Capt M. Gosling), F. Cundell, 13-10-2 B. R. Davies
8 410300 Mighty Marine (CD) (Mrs P. Lothian), J. Bradley, 7-10-0 S. Jobar
9 433f40 Sunny Chief (D) (R. Darley), B. Cambidge, 8-10-0 Mr G. Jones
10 01f- Just Lit (D) (Mrs G. Radclyffe), P. Walwyn, 9-10-0 B. McNally 7
11 4p32pp Steadygaze (D) (Mrs D. Rees-Davies), M. Scudamore, 10-10-0 P. Duggins 5
12 021004 Harsh Note (D) (A. Greig), I. Wardle, 10-10-0 .... F. White
13 12f403 Sadale VI (Mrs J. George), J. George, 9-10-0 .. Mr Woolley 5
14 0fff00 Farthingdale (D) (G. Yardley), Yardley, 9-10-0 D. Cartwright

5-2 Harsh Note, 3-1 Mighty Marine, 4-1 Master Eye, 6-1 Sunny Chief, 10-1 Sadale VI, 12-1 Steadygaze, 16-1 Just Lit, 25-1 Farthingdale.

4.0 HAY HURDLE (Novices Handicap: £408: 2m)

1 -024 Firetail (F. Exell), D. Gandolfo, 5-11-1 .... P. Barton
2 3f0p- Simon-Jake (Lady Mostyn), Ld Mostyn, 6-11-0 .... P. Morris
7 220100 Montage (D) (T. Harrison), S. Cole, 6-10-12 .. Mr Morshead
9 02f4f3 My Bid (Admin of late P. Blackburn), Miss Morris, 6-10-12 N. Wakley
11 0003- Michael's Boy (C. Smith), R. E. Peacock, 7-10-6 .. S. O'Neill 5
13 220231 Merry Boy (D) (J. Paget), D. Morley, 6-10-6 .... B. R. Davies
15 431024 Broomstick (J. Southorn), S. Holland, 8-10-6 .... S. Holland
16 0-3000d Dr Hines (J. Goff), O. O'Neill, 6-10-4 .... P. Salmon 7
20 43030f Bonk (D) (D. Woollard), M. Bolton, 5-10-1 .... P. Wilson 7
21 02b030 Shivers Regal (Mrs G. Clay), Clay, 6-10-0 .... P. Warner
25 0-4210 Ascenture (R. Woolley), J. Spearing, 10-10-0 .... Mr Woolley 5
33 1000 Aspire (D) (Mrs E. Williams), H. Williams, 5-10-0 W. Shoemark
35 030224 Nells Son (Mrs B. Ward), A. Jarvis, 5-10-0 .... J. Rees 7
50 220001 Limner (B. Palling), D. H. Jones, 5-10-0 .... J. Jenkins
51 0082f0 Mr Fizit (C. Stone), Stone, 5-10-0 .... —
34 010b00 Lyns Legend (D) (G. Price), Price, 7-10-0 .... Mr Price 7
35 000000- Ancient Melody (J. Sadler), J. Perrett, 5-10-0 .. L. Griffiths 5
37 00 Hesperus (M. Williams), Williams, 9-10-0 .... Mr Bowles 7

7-2 Firetail, 4-1 Merry Boy, 9-2 Broomstick, 11-2 Montage, 6-1 My Bid, 8-1 Dr Hines, 10-1 Limner, 12-1 Shivers Regal, 14-1 others.

4.30 KING PYON STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: £340: 3m)

1 2p-2220 Fitz (CD) (Mrs R. Harry), Harry, 10-12-10 .. Mr M. Williams 7
4 0- Dark Secret (J. Heler), Heler, 8-12-0 .... Mr Brookshaw 7
6 f Fitz Dill (L. Blair), Blair, 12-12-0 .... Mr Gundry 7
8 3b Highland Moss (H. Green), Green, 8-12-0 .... Mr Wheeler 7
11 00- Lafitte (G. Maundrell), Maundrell, 9-12-0 .. Mr Maundrell 7
13 333-2f Mr Batnac (A. Wates), Wates, 6-12-0 .... Mr Wates 5
17 p-02 Silver Gin (C. McDonagh), McDonagh, 8-12-0 .... Mr Hyatt 5
18 000f-fp Sparticus (K. Smith), Smith, 8-12-0 .... Mr Collins 7
20 020-5 Vodka Cup (T. Gibbon), Gibbon, 10-12-0 .... Mr Rooney 7

2-1 Mr Batnac, 3-1 Silver Gin, 9-2 Fitz, 6-1 Vodka Cup, 8-1 Lafitte, 12-1 Highland Moss, 16-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Hereford selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.0 Sixer. 2.30 Village Thief. 3.0 Second Hand. 3.30 Master Eye. 4.0 Merry Boy. 4.30 Fitz.

Leicester results

2.15 (2.20) BOSCABY STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £450: 5f)
Karella, b f, by Jukebox Jury—Wise Counsel (H. Loebstein), 8-11 .... P. Eddery (11-8 fav) 1
Brightelmstone, br f, by Prince Regent—Sweet Reason (R. Harvey), 8-11 .... G. Lewis (7-1) 2
Tudor Deb, br f, by Tudor Music—Gay Baby (G. Insoll), 8-11 .... T. Bridge (5-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-2 Aunt Thea, 12-1 Tia Polly, 14-1 Atlidavit, Scorpio Maid, Our Jade, 16-1 Golden Grove (4th), 50-1 Crystal Fiord. 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 54p; places, 13p, 33p, 17p; forecast, 90p. T. Corbett, Newmarket. 2l, 1l. Cindermouse did not run.

2.45 (2.46) Keythorpe Handicap (4-y-o: £335: 7f)
Dellwood Prince, b g, by Mandamus—Lazzarone (F. Dellafara), 8-3 .... W. Carson (6-1) 1
Tom Tallis, b c, by Tudor Music—Skyline (T. Gaffney), 8-9 .... P. Cook (5-1 jt fav) 2
Red Ambion, ch c, by Hotfoot—Cherry Trecce (Mrs G. Davison), 9-5 .... P. Eddery (5-1 jt fav) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 jt fav Double Star, Just Amy, 8-1 Card Sharp, 10-1 Don Philippo (4th), 16-1 Civil Servant, 33-1 Catspoint, Weepers Star. 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 47p; places, 18p, 26p, 18p; forecast, £2.96. W. Holden, Newmarket. 3l, 1l.

3.15 (3.16) HOLWELL HANDICAP (£635: 1¼m)
Mantop, b c, by Tamerlane—Final Bridge (Mrs R. Wright), 4-8-0 .... W. Carson (8-1) 1
Charles Martel, ch c, by Charlottown—Safety Fast (H. Wragg), 4-8-9 .... F. O'Neill (16-1) 2
Running Scared, gr c, by Supreme Sovereign — Balleighan (A. Spence), 4-7-5 .... R. Fox (4-1 jt fav) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt fav Dunretz, 11-2 Watch Bear, 8-1 Moonstrike, Surprise Event, 14-1 Highland Jig, 18-1 Greek Monarch, 25-1 Serogan, 33-1 Derry Town, Landpot, Quick Result (4th). 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, 75p; places, 31p, 61p, 14p. C. Brittain, Newmarket. ¾l, 4l. Rethink, Tight Rope did not run.

3.45 (3.47) BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,338: 1m)
Apres Demain, ch c, by King Emperor—Domani (P. Hester), 8-11 .... P. Eddery (1-5 fav) 1
Tutorial, b c, by Tudor Melody—Velda (G. Turner), 8-6 .... B. Taylor (4-1) 2
Rushall, ch g, by Midsummer Night II—French Seam (A. D'Morias), 8-8 .... J. Lynch (20-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 25-1 Bahrain, Paddy (4th), 50-1 The Verger. 5 ran.
TOTE: Win, 13p; forecast, 31p. P. Walwyn, at Lambourn. 5l, 2½l. Musical Lucy did not run.

4.15 (4.17) REMPSTONE STAKES (2-y-o: £459: 5f)
Regency Bill, br c, by Royalty—Gold Boom (A. Goldsworth), 8-11 .... T. Bridge (13-2) 1
Flaming Temper, ch c, by Tyrant—Smoke Signal (A. Leader), 8-11 .... P. Cook (4-9 fav) 2
Mr Nice Guy, gr c, by Murrayfield—Mead (Mrs F. Todd), 8-11 .... G. Baxter (25-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 13-2 Better Blessed (4th), 12-1 Royal Communique, 33-1 Stay With Me. 6 ran.
TOTE: Win, 54p; places, 17p, 10p; forecast, 76p. G. Hunter, at East Ilsley. Sh hd, 10l.

4.45 (4.47) HARBOROUGH STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £575: 1m)
London Spin, b f, by Derring-Do—Spin Out (Mrs R. Nelson), 8-11 .... R. Marshall (12-1) 1
Cinders, br f, by Firestreak—Princess Neferti (Mrs E. Vestey), 8-11 G. Baxter (30-1) 2
Miss Kung Fu, b f, by Caliban—Kung Hei (Mrs R. Tang), 8-6 .... R. Wernham (25-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Vibrate, 5-1 One Glance (4th), 8-1 Marusa, Young Sovereign, Smokehouse Dale, 14-1 Maeswing, Smithfield Lady, 16-1 Magic Shoes, 25-1 Morning Miss, Simm's Pimms, Statfold Pride, Du Tonerre, Flora Twice. 16 ran.
TOTE: Win, £3.08; places, 90p, 93p, 96p. W. C. Marshall, at Newmarket. 1½l, 2½l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Mantop, Regency Bill, £26.70. TREBLE: Dellwood Prince, Apres Demain, London Spin, £22.10.

Sandown Park NH

2.0 (2.8) DOWNS STEEPLECHASE (£414: 2m)
Sport of Kings, br g, by Space King—Big Liz (F. King), 8-10-9 .... M. Floyd (5-2 fav) 1
Soviet, b g, by Sovereign Lord—Henriette (G. Dawes), 9-10-11 .... P. O'Brien (13-2) 2
Crimson Clip, b g, by Double Red—Barnstaples (Mrs H. Banks), 11-11-9 .... M. Stanley (4-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-2 Curlew River, 6-1 Little Window (f), 16-1 Tern Eran (4th), 50-1 Top Pop. 7 ran.
TOTE: Win, 24p; places, 12p, 14p; dual forecast, 63p. F. King, Chippenham. 25l, ½l. Storey, 50-1, withdrawn.

2.30 (2.35) NOVICES STEEPLECHASE (£689: 2m 4f 68yd)
Catamac, b g, by Border Chief—Chinchilla Cat (Maj C. Nathan), 5-10-6 .... B. R. Davies (9-2) 1
Goldbarg, b g, by Purhapsburg—Khiva (S. Spokes), 6-10-6 .... R. Champion (13-8 on fav) 2
Indian Scholar, br g, by Indian Ruler — Nisscar (D. Lewis), 7-11-0 .... Mr P. Greenall (33-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 10-1 King Cloud (4th), 16-1 Kirkee (f). 5 ran.
TOTE: Win, 41p; forecast, 64p. F. Cundell, Didcot. Sh hd, 12l.

3.5 (3.8) ALANBROOKE STEEPLECHASE (£1,096: 3m 118yd)
Yanworth, b g, by Arctic Slave—Foxcleugh (Lord Vestey), 7-10-12 .... J. King (2-1 fav) 1
Shifting Gold, b g, by Bright as Gold—Short Shrift (R. Russell), 7-11-3 .. Mr R. Russell (7-2) 2
Noble Neptune, ch g, by Bowsprit—Easter Lullaby (G. Goobey), 10-11-8 .... V. Soane (7-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 Tuscan Prince (4th), 20-1 Midastoo (p), 25-1 Ladeven. 6 ran.
TOTE: Win, 27p; places, 14p, 16p; forecast, 71p. D. Nicholson, Stow-on-the-Wold. 10l, 1½l.

3.35 (3.40) ROYAL ARTILLERY STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: £640: 3m 118yd)
Apache Chief, b g, by Indian Ruler—Urchin Cut (D. Wales), 9-12-0 .... Mr W. Tellwright (8-1) 1
Bobs Birthday, ch g, by Mosquito II—Gay Calypso (42nd Reg RA Saddle Club), 13-11-7 .... Lt C. Moore (5-1) 2
Next Perry, b m, by Straight Lad—Aylesbeare (A. White), 9-13-0 .... Mr J. Mead (5-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Playbill, 8-1 Merchant Banker (4th), 20-1 Tambourina (f), 33-1 Admiral Rock (f), Culla Hill, Loch Anna, Prau Gale (pu), Benlech Bay. 11 ran.
TOTE: Win, 74p; places, 20p, 15p, 16p. D. Wales, at Kings Lynn. 4l, ½l.

4.10 (4.13) SPRING STEEPLECHASE (Handicap, £785: 2m 18yd)
Bon Deary, ch g, by Vulgan—Fennescourt (W. Whitbread), 12-10-1 .... H. J. Evans (11-2) 1
Persian Camp, b g, by Bivouac—Artistic Goddess (Mrs A. Arnold), 8-11-7 .. B. R. Davies (5-6 fav) 2
Garrymust, b g, by Kabale—Mrs Mustang (Lt-Col J. Benson), 11-10-11 .. Mr J. Mead (5-1) 3
ALSO RAN: Amarind (4th). 4 ran.
TOTE: Win, 56p; forecast, 93p. R. Armytage, at East Ilsley. 4l, sh hd.

4.40 (4.41) UBIQUE STEEPLECHASE (Maiden hunters: £434: 3½m 68yd)
Ancient Lawyer, ch g, by Runnymede—The Advicator (Lt-Col N. Ansell), 8-12 .... Lt-Col N. Ansell (4-1) 1
Khitale, b g, by Border Legend—Khiva (S. Knowles), 10-11-12 .... Mr S. Knowles (15-2) 2
Cokethorpe, ch g, by Spartan General—Khediva (M. Thorne), 8-12-0 .... Mr M. Thorne (8-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Snow Shoe (ur), 14-1 Liveryman (4th), 16-1 Galley Way. 6 ran.
TOTE: Win, 37p; places, 17p, 21p; forecast, £1.50. N. Ansell, at Camberley. 4l, 8l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Yanworth, Bon Deary, £7.90. Daily TREBLE: Catamac, Apache Chief, Ancient Lawyer, £45.80.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Blue Riband Trial Stakes, Epsom: Tibs Eve, Hawkberry, Rare Trial, Kayak, Gold Nugget, Fiddler's Dream, Comeram, French Swanee, Wood Green. Princess Elizabeth Stakes, Epsom: Petite Bells, Peig Sayers, Fopnes St Upper, The Rarest, Sarah Siddons, Krishna, Sweet Melody, Quiet Affair, XYZ Handicap Stakes, Newcastle: Genuine.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions off Piste	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	15	155	Good	Varied	Fine	10
Good skiing on Gemsstock						
Anzère	0	35	Wet	Heavy	Fine	4
All open pistes complete						
Champéry	5	40	Poor	Crust	Fine	8
Lower slopes worn						
Crans	5	35	Fair	Varied	Sun	4
Spring snow above 2,000 metres						
Isola 2000	110	130	Good	Heavy	Fine	7
Good piste skiing						
Les Ménuires	66	155	Fair	Heavy	Sun	5
Still good skiing on upper slopes						
St Anton	6	230	Good	Spring	Fine	11
Good skiing above 2,000 metres						
Tignes	30	90	Worn	Spring	Fine	8
Worn patches on lower slopes						
Verbier	5	65	Fair	Varied	Fine	9
Worn patches on most slopes						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	15	60	Spring	Sun	4
Arosa	85	90	Powdr	Sun	6
Braunwald	30	80	Spring	Sun	3
Chateau d'Oex	—	60	Spring	Sun	0
Davos	25	100	Hard	Sun	4
Films	—	35	Good	Sun	7
Grindelwald	10	60	Spring	Sun	1
Gstaad	—	60	Spring	Sun	6
Kandersteg	15	45	Spring	Sun	4
Lenk	30	30	Spring	Sun	0
Lenzerheide	20	50	Powdr	Sun	5
Les Diablerets	20	70	Powdr	Sun	0
Leysin	—	70	Good	Sun	7
Morgins	40	70	Spring	Sun	7
Mürren	50	30	Spring	Sun	3
Pontresina	15	60	Good	Sun	3
Saanenmöser	30	70	Spring	Sun	5
Saas-Fee	20	80	Powdr	Sun	0
St Moritz	15	70	Hard	Sun	-1
Savognin	5	70	Spring	Sun	0
Villars	10	60	Spring	Sun	4
Wengen	9	60	Spring	Sun	1
Wildhaus	10	70	Spring	Sun	8
Zermatt	30	60	Good	Sun	0

Scotland: Cairngorm: Main runs most complete, new snow with icy patches. Lower slopes a few runs complete. Vertical runs 1,450; access roads, slight snow. Snow level 2,000. Glen Shee: Main runs most complete hard packed snow with icy patches. Lower slopes ample snow. Vertical runs 1,000; access roads clear. Snow level 2,000. Glencoe: Main runs all complete, powder snow on a hard base. Lower slopes all runs complete powder snow. Vertical runs 1,300; access roads clear. Snow level 1,200.

SPORT

Football

Inspiration of Europe can raise West Ham from the ashes of their dismal domestic form

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent

Many armies, flags unfurled, drums rolling and bugles blaring, will be on the march across the Continent today. It is the semi-final round, first leg, of the European Cup, Cup Winners' Cup, and the Uefa Cup.

In all 12 clubs are involved, including England's last representatives, Liverpool (Uefa) and West Ham United (Cup Winners'). The last threads are being drawn together, but the final design will not be fully discernible until the reverse second legs are played on April 14. In that sense the English contenders and the others playing away first hold a slight tactical advantage since by then they will know their targets to be faced by their own firesides. In addition, should extra time become necessary that, too, should favour the home sides.

Meanwhile, Barcelona—because of Real's tie in Madrid tonight—fired the first shots in their 90,000 Nuo Camp Stadium against Liverpool last night. Barcelona, with their poor away record, have to face the fires of the Anfield Kop in a fortnight's time.

Across the map, some way from the Iberian Peninsula, it is the turn of West Ham to pick themselves up from the ashes of their dismal record in domestic competition since the New Year as they face Eintracht Frankfurt. Leading the championship at one stage before Christmas, West Ham have been hedged in and debilitated by defeat after defeat in the league and FA Cup, and weakened in the sad decline by a series of injuries to key players.

Tonight, too, they must take the field without Alan Taylor, their Fagin of the penalty area, a pick-pocket of goals in their counter-attacking style. Still, the elegant, stylish Brooking and Holland are fit, and perhaps the flame that has so far inspired them in Europe may spurt again.

Four goals down to Den Haag, of the Netherlands, at half time in the quarter-final, their hopes then stood at zero. But a gallant recovery to 4—2 before the finish at The Hague and a 3—1 victory at Upton Park finally saw them home on the away goals rule.

West Ham profess to be happy to play attacking, creative opponents. Eintracht Frankfurt are certainly that. The Germans have won all their six European matches; they stand sixth in their Bundesliga and are its highest scorers; and in Grabowski and Hölzenbein they boast two of the men who helped West Germany to win the World Cup two summers ago. Hölzenbein, Wenzel and Nickel, their strikers, have claimed 35 league goals between them this season. It needs no one to mark West Ham's card where the danger lies. One way and another a full house of 61,500 in the Wald stadium—a World Cup ground, finely appointed —should have some entertainment.

The European Cup, of course, stands at the top of the bill, and none more elevated than the tie between Real Madrid and Bayern Munich. Both sides possess classic qualifications. Real, six times winner of the trophy in eight finals still regard themselves the champion of champions in the club game. After a decade in the shadows they have arisen again under the leadership of Miljan Miljanic, the Yugoslav. Bayern, the holders, with six members of the German World Cup party of 1974, are attempting to win the trophy for the third consecutive year.

Real so far have negotiated two difficult hurdles in Derby County (1—4 and 5—1) and Borussia Mönchen Gladbach (2—2 and 1—1), the German champions and leaders of their league. Real beat them only on away goals and were three times behind during the tie, which at least underlined their fighting qualities of recovery.

A few days after that second leg Miljanic went to Germany to watch Bayern play Borussia in a league match. Bayern won 4—0 impressively. "They put on a world class performance", Miljanic said. "With form like that there is no team we fear more. Their experience of matches like this makes them so dangerous. And their depth of individual talent—Beckenbauer, Muller, Kappelmann, Höness, Maier, and Schwarzenbeck—reveals a side capable of winning away anywhere in the world", he said.

Real may be in some trouble over injuries. Pirri, the captain and inspiration against Borussia, has a painful leg bruise and even if he plays is unlikely to be 100 per cent fit; Breitner, once of Bayern, with a groin injury, and Velazquez (leg strain), are others yet to pass fitness tests. If they fail the Spanish midfield will be denuded. Whoever gets to the final it should be a lively night at Hampden Park on May 12.

The other semi-final will produce a new name for the European Cup climax—either St Etienne, of France, beaten 2—0 by Bayern in the semi-final last year, or PSV Eindhoven, the Dutch champions, Europe's highest scorers with 67 goals from 24 league matches.

The stage is set. Whether West Germany, in the persons of Bayern Munich, SV Hamburg and Eintracht Frankfurt, can win all three trophies to create a record national clean sweep remains to be seen.

Today's main fixtures

European Cup
St Etienne v PSV Eindhoven (7.30).
Real Madrid v Bayern Munich (8.0).

Cup Winners' Cup
Eintracht Frankfurt v West Ham United (8.0).
Sachsenring Zwickau v Anderlecht (3.30).

Uefa Cup
Hamburg v FC Bruges (7.30).

First division
Norwich v Ipswich Town (7.30).
Newcastle United v Leeds United (7.30).

Second division
West Bromwich Albion v Blackpool (7.30).

Third division
Hereford United v Aldershot (7.30).
Peterborough United v Gillingham (7.30).

Fourth division
Bradford City v Lincoln City (7.30).
Hartlepool v Rochdale (7.15).
Reading v Tranmere Rovers (7.30).
Torquay United v Southport (7.30).
Newport County v Watford (7.30).

Scottish premier division
Ayr United v Celtic (7.30).
Dundee United v St Johnstone (7.30).
Hibernian v Aberdeen (7.30).

Scottish Cup, semi-final round
Rangers v Motherwell (at Hampden Park, 7.30).

Scottish second division
Alloa v Raith Rovers (7.30).

Scottish Spring Cup
Montrose v Stirling Albion (7.30).

Toshack : combined with Keegan to score 13th minute goal.

Old Liverpool firm give Barcelona old one-two

Barcelona, March 30

Barcelona 0 Liverpool 1

Liverpool took a supremely confident step towards their second UEFA Cup final within three years, by defeating Barcelona 1—0 in the first leg of the semi-final round tie here tonight.

Liverpool, winners in 1973, became the first side to win at Barcelona's Nou Camp Stadium this season thanks to a 13th minute goal from Toshack.

The lanky Welshman, latching on to a delicate flick over the defence from Keegan, struck the ball home from 10 yards. Barcelona never recovered.

The irrepressible Keegan, who tormented the unhappy Barcelona defence all night, might have scored himself but for three fine saves from Mora. The new England cap, Kennedy, and Callaghan were the springboard for this superb victory, winning midfield control from the start and never allowing Barcelona's Dutch internationals, Cruyff and Neeskens, to dictate the pace.

Barcelona dropped their heads in dismay at the goal and Keegan almost made it two four minutes later, but Mora gathered his shot after Case had split the home defence with a fine through ball.

Liverpool, with Kennedy and Callaghan outplaying Asensi and Neeskens in midfield, were comfortably in the driving seat as Barcelona fought desperately to gain the initiative.

Marcial, bursting out of defence, left Rexach with only Clemence to beat in the 20th minute, but the Spanish winger shot into the side netting from eight yards.

Cruyff roamed the pitch searching for an opening, but his forwards, Mir and Fortes, firmly held by Hughes and Thompson, gave the Dutchman little support.

Liverpool were playing the side who beat Burnley 2—0 in a Football League game on Saturday. Toshack and Heighway, the forwards, had been passed fit in the morning to join Keegan up front in Liverpool's 4-3-3 line-up. Young Fairclough, who scored both goals on Saturday as substitute for Heighway, was back on the bench.

Liverpool had decided not to mark man-to-man despite the individual threats posed by Barcelona's Dutch internationals, Cruyff and Neeskens.

"We cannot play that way," the captain, Emlyn Hughes, said. "We are far happier playing our own game and making them come at us."

With defender Costas unfit, the midfield man, Marcial moved back in a 4-2-4 formation which included two wingers—Rexach and Fortes.

Liverpool had their first real scare after 36 minutes when Mir shot just wide of a post with an overhead kick from a Rexach corner and Clemence blocked a powerful Neeskens header as Barcelona stepped up the pace in search of an equaliser before the interval. But Liverpool remained in command for the rest of the match.

BARCELONA: Mora; Miguell, Tome, Marcial, Corominas, Noralena, Asensi, Rexach, Mir, Cruyff, Fortes.

LIVERPOOL: R. Clemence; T. Smith, P. Thompson, E. Hughes, P. Neal, I. Callaghan, R. Kennedy, J. Case, S. Heighway, J. Toshack, K. Keegan.—Reuter.

Results of yesterday's matches

Uefa Cup
Semi-final, first leg
Barcelona (0) 0 Liverpool (1) 1
70,000 Toshack

Second division
Sunderland (1) 1 York (0) 0
Kerr 33,162

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol City	37	18	13	6	53	29	49
Sunderland	36	20	7	9	54	33	47
Bolton	35	17	10	8	51	33	44
W Bromwich	35	16	11	8	40	30	43
Luton Town	36	16	8	12	48	43	40
Notts County	35	16	7	12	40	33	39
Southampton	35	16	7	12	56	43	39
Nott'm Forest	36	14	10	12	47	38	38
Charlton	35	14	9	12	52	53	37
Fulham	36	13	10	13	42	34	36
Chelsea	36	12	11	13	46	45	35
Oldham	36	12	11	13	49	54	35
Hull	36	13	8	15	38	41	34
Bristol Rovers	35	10	14	11	31	36	34
Blackpool	36	11	12	13	33	40	34
Orient	35	11	11	13	31	33	33
Plymouth	37	11	11	15	41	45	33
Carlisle Utd	36	10	12	14	38	51	32
Blackburn	36	9	13	14	36	45	31
Oxford Utd	37	9	11	16	34	48	29
Portsmouth	36	8	6	22	26	49	22
York City	36	8	6	22	31	61	22

Third division
Bury (0) 2 Shrewsbury (1) 1
Farner, Irvine (og); Atkins; 3,626
Crystal P (0) 0 Millwall (0) 0
38,383
Grimsby (1) 1 Port Vale (0) 1
Lewis; Cullerton; 4,722
Halifax (1) 1 Chesterfield (0) 0
Overton; 1,975
Preston NE (1) 4 Sheffield W (0) 2
Lyons, McMahon, Bruce (2); Bell, Henson; 6,899
Swindon (2) 2 Chester (1) 1
Moss, Syrett; Owen; 5,117

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hereford	37	21	8	8	70	44	50
Crystal P.	39	17	14	8	57	40	48
Brighton	39	21	5	13	69	44	47
Millwall	40	16	14	10	46	42	46
Cardiff	39	17	11	11	62	47	45
Walsall	40	17	11	12	56	51	45
Shrewsbury	38	17	9	12	52	45	43
Wrexham	38	16	10	12	50	41	42
Preston	38	17	7	14	52	50	41
Peterborough	38	14	13	11	55	53	41
Port Vale	39	13	13	13	44	43	39
Gillingham	38	11	17	10	48	52	39
Bury	37	12	13	12	45	40	37
Chester	39	13	10	15	38	52	36
Mansfield	39	11	13	15	47	48	35
Aldershot	39	12	11	16	52	63	35
Rotherham	39	13	9	17	45	53	35
Grimsby	38	12	10	17	51	63	34
Chesterfield	39	13	7	19	56	62	33
Halifax	38	11	10	17	36	50	32
Southend	38	11	10	17	55	63	32
Sheffield Wed	38	8	14	16	42	51	30
Swindon	38	12	6	20	49	65	30
Colchester	38	10	9	19	34	59	29

Fourth division
Barnsley (1) 4 Cambridge (0) 0
Peachey, Price, Brown, Seddon; 5,066
Doncaster (1) 1 Workington (0) 0
Miller; 4,031
Huddersfield (0) 0 Bournemouth (0) 0
5,954

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lincoln	34	23	7	4	85	32	57
Northampton	37	23	7	7	78	33	57
Tranmere	38	20	9	9	74	43	49
Reading	38	20	9	9	56	43	49
Huddersfield	38	19	10	9	50	34	48
Doncaster	40	19	8	13	70	57	46
Exeter	39	16	13	10	48	35	45
Bournemouth	39	19	8	12	49	40	44
Swansea	37	15	10	12	57	45	40
Watford	37	17	5	16	50	57	39
Torquay	39	15	9	14	44	56	39
Barnsley	39	12	14	13	42	48	38
Crewe	39	11	14	14	48	45	36
Cambridge	40	12	12	16	47	55	36
Rochdale	38	11	14	13	35	43	36
Stockport	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	54	[illegible]
Hartlepool	37	12	10	15	50	61	34
Brentford	38	12	9	17	45	50	33
Bradford	35	9	14	12	45	45	32
Newport	37	12	7	18	50	69	31
Darlington	38	11	8	19	37	50	30
Scunthorpe	39	10	8	21	39	61	28
Southport	38	4	9	25	30	69	17
Workington	37	5	6	26	23	71	16

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunstable 0, Telford 1; Gravesend 1, Stourbridge 0; Hillingdon 4, Wealdstone 1; Margate 1, Burton 0; Wimbledon 1, Atherstone 1. First division—north: Bromsgrove 2, Wellingborough 1; Enderby 1, Gloucester 2; Kidderminster 5, Milton Keynes 0. First division—south: Hastings 3, Folkestone/Shepway 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton 0, Worksop 0; Goole 1, Morecambe 1; Matlock 4, Fleetwood 2.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Bishop's Stortford 2, Leytonstone 0; Dulwich Hamlet 1, Woking 0; Enfield 3, Southall and EB 1; Hendon 2, Clapton 2; Hitchin Town 1, Dagenham 5; Slough Town 2, Leatherhead 0; Staines Town 0, Wycombe Wanderers 1; Sutton United 3, Barking 2; Walthamstow Avenue 1, Tooting and Mitcham 0.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Hemel Hempstead 1, Aylesbury United 3.

BUSF TOURNAMENT (at Edinburgh): Pool A: N Ireland 0, Scotland I 0; London 1, Cambridge 3. Pool B: Oxford 1, UAU 1; Scotland II 1, Wales 1.

RUGBY UNION: Rugby 15, Coventry 17.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: St Helens 24, Salford 7; Warrington 18, Oldham 3. Second division: New Hunslet 30, Doncaster 0.

Palace may pay penalty for Taylor miss

By Martin Tyler

Crystal Palace 0 Millwall 0

A penalty miss by Peter Taylor denied Crystal Palace a win of the most morale-boosting nature to take into Saturday's FA Cup semi-final round. Instead, from this goalless draw, they drew considerable comfort in surviving a match they did not want to play without any serious injury. Also, they kept intact a valuable point which aids their main quest for promotion.

The much publicized verbal sparring between the two managers, Malcolm Allison and Gordon Jago, over Millwall's refusal to alter the date of this fixture contributed to an abrasive atmosphere. Indeed, Palace could not have faced a more realistic rehearsal of a cup tie, in front of a 38,000 crowd, the largest of the season at Selhurst Park.

Most of the football was of the style of a knock-out competition, frenetic and furious. Each player and his immediate opponent were in such committed proximity that the panoramic view was of an outdoor ballroom, without its inherent gentility.

It took Palace almost half an hour to establish a period of psychological supremacy, with the impish Whittle leading the way. Late tackles on him in quick succession by Kitchener, who appeared to try to play the ball, and by Donaldson, who clearly did not, earned cautions for both Millwall defenders.

Briefly unsettled, the visitors nearly conceded a goal as Whittle, for the moment almost sacrosanct, set Johnson free on the right and Swindlehurst telescoped a leg to reach the cross, but Goddard clawed the ball from the line. Regaining their composure, Millwall might have gone in front when the nimble McGrath picked his way through three defenders and tested Hammond.

Seconds before the interval, Hammond's eyes and hands seemed out of sympathy as he juggled a swerving 30-yard shot from Moore over the bar. The penalty arrived just 90 seconds into the second half. It owed much to the persistence of Swindlehurst who had spent much of his evening coming second in his contests with Kitchener.

Now the centre half sent him sprawling, but Taylor's approach to the kick was unconvincing and his shot flew horrendously wide. It was to be the game's only decisive chance.

The cautions did however continue, though only occasionally did the tackling become excessively violent. Jump's name went into Mr Bent's notebook for a tackle that saw Seasman limp from the game, and in the dying minutes Salvage was similarly reprimanded for exacting his own retribution on the Palace defender.

Millwall, who have now gone nine games unbeaten, might have earned a victory when McGrath's firm header was directed too close to Hammond midway through the second half. The opportunity was created by an athletic cross from the game's outstanding individual, the marvellously coordinated and impressively uninhibited Walker.

After their away draw at Cardiff on Saturday, Millwall have surely established their right to be taken as serious promotion challengers and for all the pre-match bickering, this spirited local derby will not have dulled Palace's appetite for their big day at Stamford Bridge.

CRYSTAL PALACE: P. Hammond; S. Jump, J. Cannon, P. Holder, D. Jeffries, I. Evans, N. Chatterton, J. Johnson, A. Whittle, D. Swindlehurst, P. Taylor.

MILLWALL: R. Goddard; D. Donaldson, I. Moore, T. Brisley, B. Kitchener, T. Hazell, G. McGrath, J. Seasman, S. Salvage, R. Summerill, P. Walker, T. Lee.

Referee: J. E. Bent (Hemel Hempstead).

Workington to reapply

Workington, whose support numbers hundreds rather than thousands, lost their 28th league match of the season last night. They will now be forced to apply for re-election to the fourth division for the third successive year, the fourth time in their history.

Doncaster, on the fringe of promotion, won 1—0, a first half goal from Miller giving them two valuable points.

In the second division Sunderland carried a lot of luck in boosting their promotion chances with a 1—0 win which pushed York nearer to relegation. York could well have been four goals to the good at half-time, their pace and power dictating the game for long periods. They were awarded a penalty when Montgomery pulled down Woodward after eight minutes but the goalkeeper made amends when he saved Ian Holmes's kick.

Then Woodward twice sent shots against a post and Cave and Hinch both missed open-goal chances.

Kerr put Sunderland ahead in first half injury time from a pass by Greenwood and one minute later Crawford saved well from Robson.

Other fixtures

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Epsom v Redhill (7.30); Letchworth Town v Edmonton-Haringey (7.30).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Kettering v Bedford (7.30). First division—north: Oswestry v King's Lynn (7.30). First division—south: Guildford Dorking v Salisbury (7.30); Waterlooville v Romford (7.30).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: South Liverpool v Lancaster (7.30), Mossley v Skelmersdale (7.30).

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Aberavon v Ebbw Vale (7.0); Bridgend v Swansea (7.15); Cardiff v Gloucester (7.15); Moseley v Newbridge (7.30); Penarth v Newport (7.0); Torquay Athletic v Paignton (6.0); Weston-super-Mare v Bristol (6.15); Northampton v Bedford (7.30). Other match: Civil Service v Army (at Chiswick, 3.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Widnes v Dewsbury (7.30).

Rugby Union

Burrell a likely candidate for manager of Lions

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

George Burrell, the chairman of the Scottish selectors, is, I hear, a likely nomination for the post of manager of the British Lions' tour of New Zealand next year. If, as many will hope, he can take the necessary leave of absence from his work, he must be a strong candidate for the job. He managed Scotland's short tour to New Zealand last summer, when in all accounts he proved a well liked and respected figure by everyone concerned.

Mr Burrell, a pillar of the Gala club who celebrate their centenary this season, has been a national selector for eight years, three of them as chairman. He won four caps as a full back in the seasons 1950 and 1951 and finished playing two years later. After what I believe was a short experience as a spectator, he took up refereeing and handled two internationals in 1959-60.

It is customary for the identity of the manager and assistant manager (coach) for a Lions tour to be settled well in advance of the home season that precedes it, so that they may divorce themselves from domestic matters to concentrate on preparations for the tour.

Because a Welshman, John Dawes, who captained the successful Lions side in New Zealand in 1971, is the obvious choice as coach, it seems likely that the manager will come from one of the other countries. Vic Roberts, who was a Lions flanker in New Zealand in 1950, is said to be a potential English candidate. It is important, however, to select the best triumvirate (manager, coach and captain) regardless of national considerations.

As to the captaincy and the overall strength of the side, the present plight of Mervyn Davies—and the assumed certainty that he will never play again—is a grievous blow to the Lions' aspirations. However, much water can flow beneath the bridge before the captains need to be appointed. I would hazard a guess that Roger Uttley, although he has yet to captain England, might make an ideal candidate. There should be no question of this versatile forward not demanding a place as a player.

Davies more alert

Mervyn Davies, the Welsh Rugby Union captain, is showing slight improvement after collapsing during a game on Sunday with a brain haemorrhage. The news from the University of Wales Hospital is that "he is perhaps a little more alert and has less headache".

Table tennis

England go through to meet Soviet Union in final

Prague, March 30.—Jill Hammersley, the top seed in the singles, led England to the women's team final at the European table tennis championships here with a 3—1 victory over Yugoslavia today. The unbeaten English women will meet the Soviet Union in tomorrow's final. The Russians, who lost to England in the opening series of matches, beat Czechoslovakia 3—2 in tonight's second semi-final.

Mrs Hammersley soon overcame the disappointment of losing her open singles 21—15, 21—8 to Miss Palatinus. She partnered Linda Howard to victory in the doubles and then clinched the tie by beating Miss Fabri, of Yugoslavia, 21—17, 21—12 in her second singles match.

The men's final will be between Sweden and Yugoslavia. Sweden beat France 5—2 and Yugoslavia beat the Soviet Union by a similar margin. The results were as expected, the Swedes and the Yugoslavs having come to the semi-finals as the only unbeaten men's teams.

England's men failed to imitate the women's success. In their play-off for fifth place against Czechoslovakia they were beaten 5—1. Jarvis scored the English win by beating Turai 22—20, 12—21, 21—19.

RESULTS: England beat Yugoslavia 3—1 (J. Hammersley lost to Miss Palatinus 15—21, 8—21; Miss L. Howard beat Miss Fabri 10—21, 21—13, 21—14; Mrs Hammersley and Miss Howard beat Miss Palatinus and Miss Jeler 21—7, 21—15; Mrs Hammersley beat Miss Fabri 21—17, 21—12).—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Wales-West Germany

Frankfurt, March 30.—West Germany will meet Wales in a friendly football match in West Germany on December 14, 1977. The two sides are also due to play each other in Cardiff on October 6 this year.—Reuter.

Stoke's midfield player, Geoffrey Salmons and the club physiotherapist, Michael Allen, both have flu and several other players have colds.

Bowls

MERTHYR TYDFIL: British women's indoor team championships: Scotland 127, Ireland 104. (Scottish names first): J. Frame 19, P. Kyle 15; M. Black 18, E. Cameron 17; N. Skanridge 25, M. McGrath 15; N. Carroll 20, M. Ross 17; C. McParland 19, D. Frazer 21; E. Nell 26, N. Gibson 17. Wales 126, England 101 (Welsh names first): E. Morgan 18, J. Sparkes 20; G. Davies 26, S. Milton 13; M. Pomery 23, N. Johnson 9; L. Nicholas 21, S. Harrison 13; J. Pryor 17, G. Glover-Phillips 21; M. Jones 21, N. Cress 19.

Cricket

West Indies look set to build on lead

Port of Spain, March 30.—After scrambling to a draw in the second Test here, the West Indies now look set to win their four-match series against India with something to spare.

The Queen's Park Oval pitch, suited as it is to spin, always promised to give India a good chance of victory and for much of yesterday's final day they looked like doing just that. But in the end, the West Indies, 161 behind on first innings, reached 215 for eight.

WEST INDIES: First innings: 241 (I. V. A. Richards 130; B. S. Bedi 5 for 82).

Second innings

R. C. Fredericks, lbw, b Venkataraghavan .. 8
L. G. Rowe, b Venkataraghavan .. 47
M. A. Holding, b Chandrasekhar .. 3
I. V. A. Richards, run out .. 20
A. I. Kallicharran, c Venkataraghavan, b Chandrasekhar .. 12
C. H. Lloyd, c M. Amarnath, b Bedi .. 70
D. L. Murray, c and b Bedi .. 5
B. D. Julien, not out .. 13
D. A. J. Holford, b Bedi .. 0
A. M. E. Roberts, not out .. 4
Extras (b 14, lb 15, nb 1) .. 30
Total (8 wkts) .. 215

R. R. Jumadeen did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—23, 2—50, 3—52, 4—112, 5—137, 6—185, 7—183, 8—194.

BOWLING: Madan Lal 4—2—2—0, M. Amarnath 3—0—11—0, Chandrasekhar 41—16—68—2, Venkataraghavan 41—20—60—2, Bedi 56—17—44—3.

INDIA: First innings: 402 for 5 dec (S. M. Gavaskar 156, B. P. Patel 115).

FIRST TEST: Bridgetown: West Indies won by innings and 97 runs.—Reuter.

Law Report March 30 1976 Court of Appeal

Liability for footpath over railway

Thomas v British Railways Board and Others

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Scarman and Lord Justice Goff

Where a railway undertaking permits the public to acquire a right of way over a railway line, it must by the general law, apart from any statutory duty, provide proper safeguards, such as an adequate stile or gate, particularly where the crossing is at least almost as old as the railway.

The Court of Appeal, in reserved judgments, allowed an appeal by an infant plaintiff, Ceri Anne Thomas, now nearly eight, suing by her father and best friend, Mr Gerald Grenville Thomas, of Cae Tinker, Maesteg, Glamorgan, from Mr Justice Griffiths's dismissal of her claim for damages for negligence and breach of statutory duty against the British Railways Board; Mr David Thomas Rees, of Forth, the driver of the train which struck her when, in 1969, she was sitting on a railway line; and Maesteg Urban District Council, who had developed a housing estate, on the far side of the line, where she lived.

Judgment was given for the girl, who has lost both her legs, for £35,000, special damages and interest at 8 per cent against the board.

The court held that the board was entitled to an indemnity from the council under an agreement whereby the council had agreed to maintain fences and stiles approved by the board.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Mr John Davies, QC, and Mr Roger Garfield for the girl; Mr Ifor Morris Jones, QC, and Mr Phillip Rees for the board and the driver; Mr Peter Fallon, QC, Mr Nigel Fricker and Mr Nicholas Beddard for the council.

LORD DENNING said that on April 17, 1969, Ceri, then only two years and two months, was sitting on the railway line. The driver of a one-coach diesel train came round a bend 300 yards away and saw something on the line which he took to be a piece of paper or litter. He sounded his horn and reduced speed. Then he saw some movement and applied his brakes fully. He just failed to stop in time. The front wheels ran over Ceri's legs, cutting them off below the knees.

Ceri was at a place where there was a public footpath across the line. She had toddled along the footpath, then through a gap where there had been a stile which had broken down. It was the board's duty to maintain the stile, but they had got the council to take it on.

It was said that the board's responsibility depended on whether there was a public footpath there before the railway was built, over a hundred years ago, or only after it was built. His Lordship thought that it was the duty of the board to maintain a good and sufficient stile in either case.

In 1860 the railway company had bought a stretch of pasture land for a railway up the valley of the River Llynfi. The line was opened in 1861. There was evidence that in 1876 there was a footpath used by the public at large across the pasture and then across the railway line. The railway company had put a stile in the railway path, but by 1968 it was out of repair.

In 1969 the council developed a housing estate of nearly 200 houses where the pasture had been. They bought a strip of land along the railway and agreed to make a new fence there. They made a fine new fence and put a new stile for people using the footpath which was completed on April 1, 1969. The stile was not fit for old people, little women and small children. The judge said that it was a bad stile.

After about 10 days, perhaps by vandalism, the stile was demolished. The demolition made it easy for children to walk straight through.

On the morning of April 17, while her mother in one of the new council houses was doing her washing, Ceri must have toddled out, through the open gap where the stile had been and sat down on the line.

The court could not possibly reverse the judge's finding that the driver was not negligent.

The railway was built under an Act which incorporated the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845. The judge was persuaded that there was no public footpath there when the railway was built. But he was not referred to the settled principle that, where there was long-continued user of a right, it was to be presumed that the right had a legal origin: *Clippens Oil Co Ltd v Edinburgh and District Water Trustees* ([1904] AC 64).

Moreover, the path might have started as a private footpath and then been used so much by the public that they acquired a public right of way: *British Transport Commission v Westmorland County Council* ([1958] AC 126). It would be intolerable if the duties of the railway company differed according to whether the public footpath was there before or after the railway was built.

Once the railway company dedicated a way to the public across its lines it had a duty to the public to prevent accidents: *Lloyds Bank Ltd v Railway Executive* ([1952] 1 TLR 1207, 1213). The common law would act by analogy with section 61 of the 1845 Act (imposing a duty to maintain good and sufficient stiles). If the stile became defective the railway company were bound to repair it at once and were liable for any damage caused thereby.

The broken stile was one of the causes of the accident. The board were liable in damages. *Williams v Great Western Railway Co* ((1874) LR 9 Ex 157) was correctly decided.

Under an agreement of December, 1968, the council had agreed with the board "to erect and at all times . . . maintain . . . fences", which included stiles. The board were entitled to pass their entire liability on to the council.

The appeal should be allowed and the damages should be assessed at £35,000, excluding special damages.

LORD JUSTICE SCARMAN, concurring, said that he too could not accept that Ceri's cause of action could, or ought to, depend on whether the railway preceded the right of way, or vice versa. The board admitted that the footpath was a public right of way. It must be presumed to be of lawful origin. Upon a balance of probabilities it was more likely that the right of way preceded the railway. So the defective stile constituted a breach of statutory duty to Ceri: *Williams v GWR*.

It was argued that there was no room for a common law duty which could not be extended beyond the ambit of the statute. It was one thing to dedicate a highway to the use of the public, subject to the existing state of things, but quite another, having granted a public right of way across a railway, to operate the railway without using reasonable care for those who might reasonably be expected to use the crossing.

The board knew that it was a well used path linking a housing estate with shops and a school. They appeared to have recognized the need for a stile. It was a bad stile. There was a situation of danger which could reasonably be guarded against by the provision of an adequate stile. In operating their railway in such circumstances the board were guilty of common law negligence: *Herrington v British Railways Board* ([1972] AC 877, 909, 920). The board were entitled to an indemnity against the council.

LORD JUSTICE GOFF, concurring in allowing the appeal on the ground of common law negligence, said that he agreed with the judge that the crossing became a public footpath after and not before the railway and accordingly section 61 of the 1845 Act did not apply.

His Lordship had felt considerable doubt whether the board were liable for common law negligence, since there was no breach of statutory duty. But if a railway company permitted the public to acquire a right of way over the line there was much to be said for the view that, as it must then breach the fence, or allow it to be breached, it should be required by the general law to provide proper safeguards by way of an adequate stile or gate. *Williams v GWR* applied by analogy. The board were entitled to full indemnity from the council.

Solicitors: Butt & Bowyer for Randalls, Bridgend; Mr Evan Harding; Morgan, Bruce & Nicholas, Cardiff.

Valuation method for haven valid

Milford Haven Conservancy Board v Inland Revenue Commissioners and Others.

Before Lord Justice Cairns, Lord Justice Scarman and Sir Gordon Willmer

[Judgments delivered March 26]

The Court of Appeal refused to grant a declaration that a statutory order made under section 35 of the General Rate Act, 1967, changing the basis of valuation of docks and harbours was ultra vires and void. Their Lordships held that the language of the section was extremely wide and gave the Secretary of State for the Environment power to make such an order.

The court dismissed an appeal by Milford Haven Conservancy Board from the dismissal by Mr Justice Bridge (*The Times*, March 19, 1975) of a consolidated action brought by the board against the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, a valuation officer and two rating authorities for a declaration, inter alia, that the Docks and Harbours (Valuation) Order, 1971 (SI 1971 No 561), was ultra vires; that the commissioners were not empowered to calculate in accordance with the provisions of the order the ratable values of the hereditaments occupied by the board; and that the valuation officer was not empowered to alter the valuation list in accordance with the order in respect of them.

Section 35 provides: "(1) The Minister may by order make provision for determining the ratable value of hereditaments to which this section applies, or any class or description of such hereditaments specified in the order, by such method as may be so specified. (2) This section applies to . . . (c) any hereditament occupied by the persons carrying on, under authority conferred by or under any enactment, a dock or harbour undertaking; . . . (6) An order under this section may repeal or amend any enactment so far as that enactment relates to the valuation of such hereditaments to which the order relates, may apply, restrict or modify the provisions of this Act relating to proposals for alterations of valuation lists. . . ."

Mr David Widdicombe, QC, and Mr Anthony Anderson for the board; Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, and Mr Alan Fletcher for the commissioners and the valuation officer; Mr Gerald Moriarty, QC, and Mr Charles Fay for the rating authorities.

LORD JUSTICE CAIRNS said the appeal concerned the method of valuation for rating of the board's hereditaments at Milford Haven. Section 35 authorized the minister to prescribe methods of valuation for four categories of hereditament, including a statutory dock or harbour undertaking. In purported pursuance of section 35 an order was made in 1971, amended in 1973, prescribing a method of valuation for such hereditaments. The board was a harbour undertaking within the section.

The board submitted that the orders were contrary to certain fundamental principles of rating valuation law and imposed, under the guise of prescribing a method of valuation, a form of tax which Parliament could never have intended. The orders based valuation on the board's receipts not limited to receipts derived from the occupation of hereditaments, which it was said was no method of valuation at all.

For the defendants it was contended that the orders were within the wide powers conferred by the section, which included the power to repeal or amend enactments. The judge accepted those contentions.

His Lordship, after reviewing the development of the methods of valuation, said that there had been difficulties with regard to various types of hereditaments not normally the subject of letting. In the 1967 Act, a consolidating Act, there were provisions for the valuation of water undertakings (section 31), for railway and canal undertakings (section 32), for gas authorities (section 33), for electricity boards (section 34), and for four types of undertaking including docks and harbours (section 35). Under sections 31, 33 and 34 methods of assessment were set out in schedules.

Section 35 had no schedule but provided that the minister could provide by order for each type of undertaking covered by it. Article 4 of the 1971 order provided that the ratable value of any hereditament "shall . . .— (a) where the dock or harbour undertaking is wholly comprised in one hereditament, be 4 per cent of the relevant receipts of the . . . undertaking . . . ; (b) where the . . . undertaking extends to two or more hereditaments, be the portion of 4 per cent of the relevant receipts of the . . . undertaking allocated to the hereditament under article 5 (2)."

Article 3 (2) defined "relevant receipts" as "all receipts, other than receipts in respect of cargo handling, by way of revenue (including the rents of parts of the dock or harbour let notwithstanding that such parts are separately rated) included or to be included in the accounts of the undertaking . . .".

The board argued that the orders purported to rate receipts which were not the product of the hereditament, to rate property outside the rating district and, in relation to rents, to produce double rating.

The only ratable hereditaments which the board occupied were a jetty, a small block of offices and a wooden building used temporarily as an office. The "relevant receipts" included dues levied on vessels entering and leaving the haven; rent of a pilots' waiting room in the office block; rent of a cottage separately rated; and income for boarding and landing services of pilots carried out by the board for Trinity House. It was estimated that if the formula of the orders were applied the ratable values would rise from £23,322 in 1971 to £55,000 in 1976 as against £4,602 previously.

It was clear that dues levied on vessels entering or leaving the haven were not dependent on the board's occupation of the ratable hereditaments; nor was the board's investment income. The haven was extra-parochial and the cottage was double assessed if the board was rated in respect of it. Those facts showed how great was the departure from the classical rules of rating, though the 1973 order went some way to reduce the extent of the departure.

In his Lordship's judgment the language of section 35 (1) and (6) was sufficiently clear to entitle the minister to prescribe any method of valuation, however far it departed from established principles. There was not in the words of the section any such ambiguity as the court could be asked to resolve in favour of the ratepayer. Nor did the order deal with liability to rates as distinct from valuation for rates. It could not be said that the orders sought to impose rates on the haven or on the dues, investment income or rents received.

When the profits basis of valuation was adopted it was not the profits that were being rated but the hereditaments.

But was the method prescribed a method of valuation at all? If section 35 required the net annual value to be assessed, the orders could not fairly be considered to be directed to ascertaining that value. But ratable value whenever it departed from net annual value, was an artificial concept. The profits basis of valuation was a means of estimating the rent that the hypothetical tenant would pay. No complaint was made of the method of applying the percentage to receipts so long as the definition of "relevant receipts" was not too wide.

It was unnecessary to rely on any extraneous means of discovering Parliament's intention because sections 35 (1) and (6) were clear and unambiguous and conferred on the minister the power to make the orders.

His Lordship rejected the argument that Parliament could not have intended to permit a basis of assessment which would increase ratable value five or 10 times. It might be that the earlier ratable values were too low. If it were found that an order operated unfairly that would be a matter for investigation and report under subsection (5).

There was nothing in the orders which conflicted with provisions in the Act other than those dealing with valuation. The orders did not purport to rate anything that was not ratable under section 1 (2) and 16.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Scarman and Sir Gordon Willmer delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche; Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Rutland Crauford for Price & Kelway, Milford Haven.

Church news

Appointments:

The Rev J. G. Dulfer, priest in the parish of North Lambeth, diocese of Southwark, to be priest-in-charge of St Philip's, Earls Court Road, diocese of London.

The Rev A. D. Edwards, curate of St James's, Teignmouth, diocese of Exeter, to be priest-in-charge of St Philip and St James's, Ilfracombe, same diocese.

The Rev J. J. Hamilton-Brown, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Bramcote, Nottingham, diocese of Southwell, to be research and development officer of the Archbishops' Council for Evangelism.

The Rev A. R. Linton, priest-in-charge of All Saints, Appley Bridge, diocese of Blackburn, to be priest-in-charge of St Peter's, Scorton, and of Calder Vale with Admarsh in Bleasdale, same diocese.

The Rev C. B. Underwood, Rector of Carleton-in-Craven, diocese of Bradford, to be Vicar of Twyning, diocese of Gloucester.

Diocese of Hereford

The Rev D. W. Dale, Vicar of the Leintwardine group of parishes, to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Hereford.

The Rev C. W. Herbert, adviser to schools in Ludlow archdeaconry, to be director of religious education in the diocese from October 1.

The Rev H. D. G. Jenkyns, Vicar of St Paul's, Wood Green, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar of Stokesay.

The Rev H. L. Whatley, Rector of Colwall with Upper Colwall, to be Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral.

Diocese of Ripon

The Rev R. C. Hall, Vicar of Birstwith, to be priest-in-charge of Darley with Thornthwaite and Thruscross.

The Rev C. N. H. White, Rector of St Mary with Holy Trinity, Richmond, and Rural Dean of Richmond, to be priest-in-charge of Hudswell.

Diocese of Southwark

The Rev D. Jackson, Rector of Holy Trinity, Clapham, to be also priest-in-charge of St Peter's, Clapham.

The Rev D. L. Johnson, curate of Christ Church, New Malden and Coombe, to be Parish Priest of St Matthias's, Upper Tulse Hill.

The Rev . R. Morris, Vicar of St Mary's, Battersea, and examining chaplain to the Bishop of Southwark, to be also Rural Dean of Battersea.

Diocese of York

The Rev L. D. Christie, social worker for the deaf Westminster City Council, to be Vicar of Easington with Skeffling and Kilnsea.

The Rev I. D. Reid, curate of Bewerth, to be Vicar of St Barnabas's Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.

Resignations

Canon J. Allen, Vicar of Layer de la Haye, diocese of Chelmsford, on May 31.

The Rev W. H. Dale Chapman, Vicar of Brookthorpe with Whaddon and Harescombe, diocese of Gloucester, on May 31.

The Rev S. Holt, Vicar of Liversedge, diocese of Wakefield.

The Rev W. A. Rowe, Rector of Bratton Clovelly with Germansweek, diocese of Exeter, in August.

IRA bombers lose appeal plea

Six IRA bombers who caused the death of 21 people in Birmingham in 1974 were refused leave by the Court of Appeal yesterday to challenge their murder convictions.

Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, held that there was nothing unsafe or unsatisfactory about their convictions at Lancaster Crown Court on August 15 last.

Girl on murder charge

Pauline Elizabeth Tidy, aged 19, a student, of Mead Road, Cranleigh, Surrey, was remanded in custody at Guildford yesterday charged with the murder of a boy aged 19 months whose body was found in a deep freeze.

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Property

Country property

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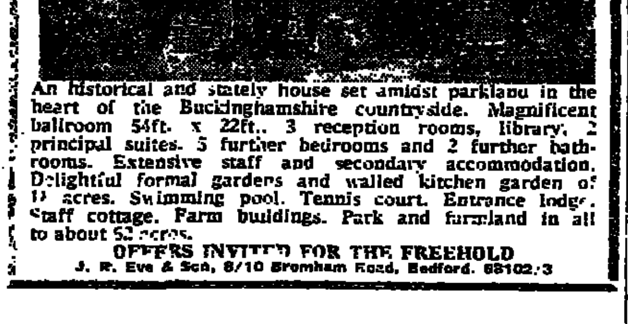

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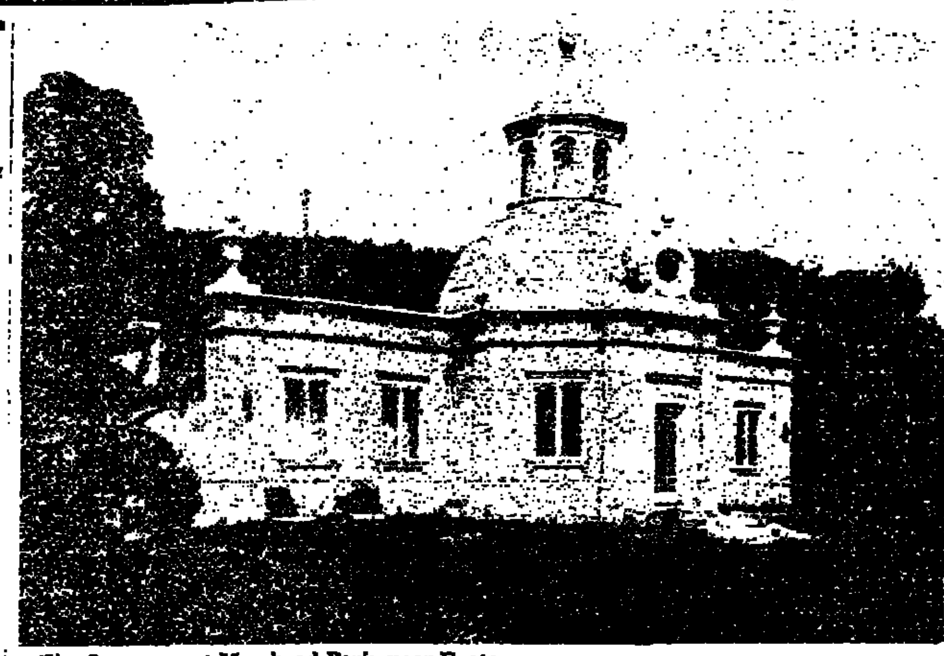

The Orangery, at Mamhead Park, near Exeter.

Residential property

Appeal of cottages on wane

The appeal of country cottages is in question these days, mainly on economic grounds. Rising rail fares and petrol costs, to say nothing of renovation and maintenance, have combined to dampen enthusiasm for the real country home, either as a weekend retreat or for retirement.

Yet there are still many people who will make sacrifices to give reality to what for many urban dwellers has been a lifelong dream. Properties in the Cotswolds area are among the most popular, both for their picturesque qualities and the scenic beauty of the countryside.

That leads particular interest to a collection of four such properties due to be offered at auction later in April, unless sold privately, by Rylands and Co. of Cirencester. If they come to auction and the prices become known, it will be an interesting test of the market.

The two most important are Elm Villa, at Fossebridge, modernized, with two reception and three bedrooms and a garden of two acres and a quarter, which is expected to make about £25,000; and 4 Coln St Aldwyns, with a grade two listing, also with two reception and three bedrooms. It is modernized, but with room for further improvement, and is expected to make about £15,000.

About £12,000 is expected for 19/20 Windrush, a pair of unmodernized grade two buildings with much the same accommodation, and perhaps £10,000 for Old School Cottage, at Eastcourt, with a living room and two bedrooms, which also needs improvement.

The same agents, in association with John D. Wood and Co. of London, are dealing with a property at the other end of the price scale, but in the same area. It is the Copse Hill Estate, at Lower Slaughter, where the house has an interesting background. It was originally built at the end of the nineteenth century, but was redesigned between 1906 and 1909 by Sir Edwin Lutyens. In the past three years it has been reduced in size, reroofed and modernized.

Accommodation now includes three reception rooms, a study and four main and four secondary rooms. The property extends in all to some 126 acres, of which about 90 acres is pasture and the rest gardens, grounds and woodland, which include trout fishing in some 350 yards of the Slaughter Brook. There are also two lodges, outbuildings and stabling for 12 horses. The joint agents are seeking "something in excess of £200,000".

Also well up the price scale, at £145,000, is Brook Hill House, near Freshwater, Isle of Wight. The house was built about 60 years ago of stone brought over in barges from Caen, and a notable feature of the inside is the extensive use of Indian teak and mahogany.

It was originally built for Sir Charles Seely and owners have included J. B. Priestley. The accommodation includes a fine galleried hall, four reception rooms and 11 bedrooms. The grounds, which contain much woodland, comprise about 50 acres. Included in the price is an old coach house with planning consent for conversion into three dwellings. The agents are Jones Martin Fleetwood, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Another property in the upper price bracket is Brookfield, at Elstead, Surrey, which is being offered for sale at around £125,000. It is a sixteenth-century building, with many original features such as exposed timbers and inglenook fireplaces retained in the modernization.

It has five main bedrooms and two further bedrooms in a self-contained guest wing, two reception rooms and a study. Outside there is a sauna lodge, a garden house with a games room and a garage block with a cinema above. Grounds of 12½ acres include four lakes and several hundred yards of frontage to the River Wey. Hampton and Sons are the agents.

Deceptive in its style is a property called Plovers, at Teigh, near Oakham, Leicestershire. Built of stone with windows in the gothic style and a steeply pitched thatched roof, it appears to be an old house, but in fact was built only about six years ago.

There are two main reception rooms, a study and three bedrooms, but outside there is a detached period cottage with a sitting room and two bedrooms. There is about two thirds of an acre of garden. The price is £42,500 through Strutt and Parker, of Grantham.

The Orangery, at Mamhead Park, near Exeter, has an unusual appeal. Probably built in the early nineteenth century, it was converted for residential use about 15 years ago. It is a single-storey building with a high cupola in the centre, under which there is an octagonal dining hall with a correspondingly high ceiling. There are two further reception rooms, a main bedroom and bathroom suite and a further bedroom. It has three acres of garden and looks across parkland to Lyme Bay.

Due to come to auction in May, it is expected to make about £25,000 to £30,000. The agents are John Wood and Co. of Honiton, and Haarer and Motts, of Newton Abbot.

Some fine chalk-stream fishings are being offered for sale through Knight Frank and Rutley. They are at Abbots Worthy, Hampshire, and consist of 1,089 yards double bank and 647 yards single, on the River Itchen. A price of not less than £75,000 is being asked, to include a three-bedroom keeper's cottage, though it is understood that the fishings would be sold without the cottage.

The sale is interesting, as fishings of that size and quality are not often on the market without the added cost of a large house.

Filton Barton Farm, at North Molton, north Devon, made £88,500, or about £406 an acre, when sold recently at auction on behalf of Lady Stucley, wife of Major Sir Dennis Stucley, by Humbert, Flint, Rawlence and Squarey in association with Dobbs, Stagg, Knowlman and Co. The property is a dairy and stock-raising farm of 218 acres with farmhouse and buildings, and went to a local farmer.

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Banbury 6 miles, Oxford 17 miles.

Attractive family house delightfully set in outstanding south-facing garden. 3 reception rooms, breakfast room/kitchen, 4 main and 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oil fired central heating, garaging and gardens. About 1¾ acres. **Offers around £35,000.**

SAVILLS, Banbury. Tel. (0295) 3535.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
North Chilterns

Tring station 5 miles—Euston 36 minutes, London 40 miles, Chesham 5 miles —Metropolitan line to Baker Street.

Charming old conversion of period farm buildings forming a compact house built round a courtyard and with a beautiful garden. 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, *dressing room, 2 bathrooms, oil fired* central heating, extensive garaging and outbuildings. Delightful garden and 3 paddocks. **About 13 acres.**

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.

BERKSHIRE—Winkfield

Windsor and M4 5 miles, Ascot 4 miles.

Delightful small period house listed architecturally and situated in this very popular area close to Windsor Forest where houses of medium size are scarce. 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oil-fired central heating. Garden studio, garaging for 3, outbuildings, garden and grounds. **About 2½ acres.**

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.

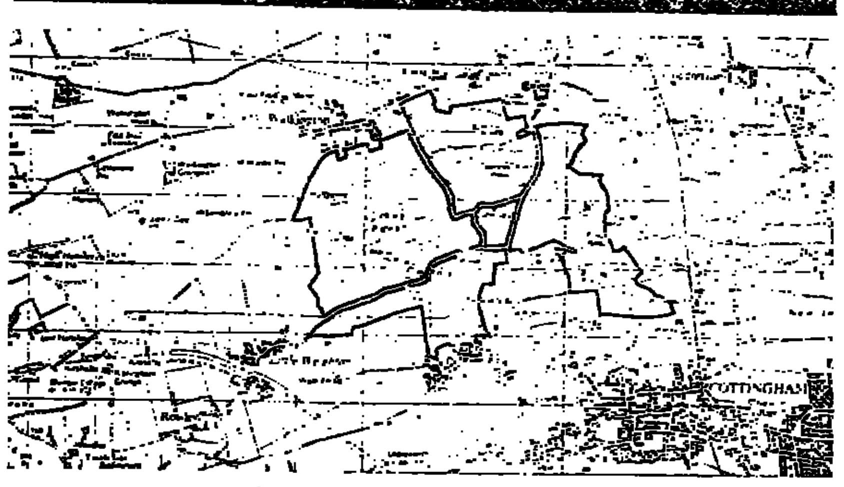
SOUTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

Boston 2 miles, Spalding 15 miles, Grantham 30 miles

Classic Georgian house circa 1769 with a William and Mary wing of quite outstanding Architectural merit, undoubtedly one of the finest small period houses in the country, standing in a partly moated and timbered parkland setting. Hall, drawing room, libarary, dining room, modern kitchen. 6 bedrooms, dressing room 3 bathrooms, gas fired central heating, outbuildings, easily maintained park-like grounds. **About 9 acres.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel.: 01-499 8644 and 8a Bailgate, Lincoln. Tel., (0522) 31411.

The Risby Estate N. Humberside

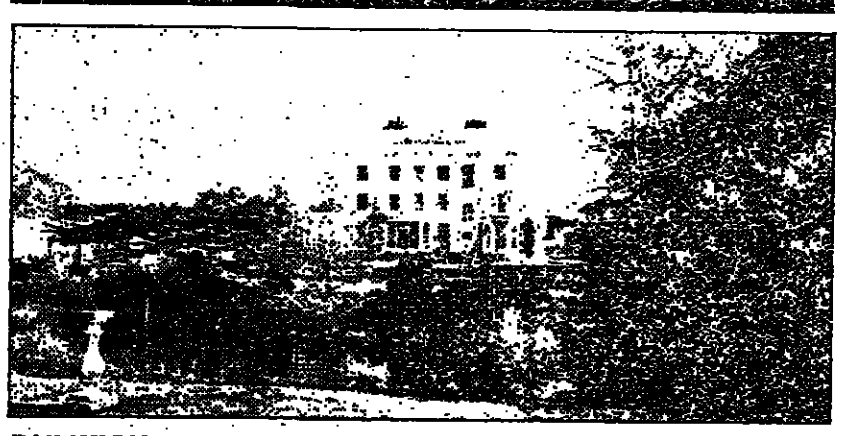


2,888 Acres

An outstanding agricultural investment on some of the finest arable land on the edge Yorkshire wolds together with woodlands and cottage properties.
9 let farms, 3 small holdings, 5 cottages, shooting rights. 2,670 acres let and producing £23,443.
218 acres woodland and other land in hand.

SAVILLS, London. Tel.: 01-499 8644 and Lincoln. Tel.: (0522) 31411.
WELLS CUNDALL, Beverley. Tel.: (0482) 885261 and at Hull, Malton, and other offices.

Houses Near London



DULWICH

6 miles Central London

Fine Georgian house dating about 1790; premier position in College Road, standing in nearly 2½ acres with rural outlook over playing fields and timbered surroundings. 4 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms and dressing rooms. 3 bathrooms, billiards/playroom. Part central heating. Garage block with flat over of 5 rooms. Kitchen and bathroom. Country house style gardens and grounds with specimen trees and shrubs. Small lake. Kitchen garden. **Just under 2½ acres. Leasehold 78 years (enfranchisable) for sale. £90,000.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel.: 01-499 8644.
KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, London Office. Tel. 01-628 8171.

MOOR PARK

Marylebone 20 minutes
4 minutes' walk station, close to Northwood and Harrow

Very attractive modern house in prestige position. 3 reception rooms, breakfast room/nursery, 5 bedrooms, dressing room 2 bathrooms, attic playroom, gas central heating throughout. Double garage, delightful secluded garden. £52,500.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel.: 01-499 8644.
PETER ROBSON & COMPANY, Northwood (65) 24398.

WEST SUSSEX

5 miles east of Chichester, Barnham station 1½ miles, Victoria 80 minutes.

Exceptional 16th/17th century house with classical Queen Anne facade and many other features of the period; extensively restored and modernised and with new electrical and plumbing system. 3 fine reception rooms, breakfast room, fully fitted kitchen, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room and 3 bathrooms: 6 secondary bedrooms and 4th bathroom. Oil-fired central heating. Heated swimming pool. **3¾ acres. Offers over £60,000.** Two flats and two houses additionally available if required.

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.
WHITEHEADS, Chichester. Tel. (0243) 86181.

SURREY—WINDLESHAM

London 25 miles, M3 20 minutes.

Outstanding superbly equipped period house in a quiet situation away from main road. 3 reception rooms, playroom, 7 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms (including 2 suites), central heating, garaging for 3 with garden flat, heated swimming pool, fine gardens with banks of rhododendrons. **£79,000.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel. 01-499 8644.

ESSEX

Halstead 6 miles, Braintree 10 miles.

Delightful listed period house dating from 15th century in excellent decorative order and in a secluded rural position. Reception hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large studio, garaging for 3 cars, outbuildings, staff cottage, fine gardens and grounds and let field. **About 7 acres. £57,000.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel. 01-499 8644, and 5 High Street, Halstead. Tel. (07874) 5111.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Royston 4 miles, King's Cross 65 minutes, Cambridge 10 miles.

Delightful 19th century mill in quiet rural position superbly converted to light spacious accommodation retaining many of its original characteristics and divided into 2 houses.
Lot 1: 2-3 reception rooms including 44ft drawing room, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1½ acres.
Lot 2: Reception room, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. ½ acre **£29,000.**
A further ¾ acre is available to either party if required.

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.
DOUGLAS C. JANUARY, Royston. Tel. (0763) 42921.

WEST SUFFOLK

Chevington ½ mile Bury St. Edmunds 7 miles, Newmarket 11 miles.

Charming house of period origin with beautiful, easily maintained gardens surrounded by agricultural land and fine views over the Ickworth Estate. 4 reception rooms, excellent breakfast/kitchen, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, garage, garden. **1½ acres. £35,000.**

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.
H. C. WOLTON & SON, Bury St. Edmunds. Tel. (0284) 61336.

SUSSEX—Near Henfield

Haywards Heath 8 miles.
Brighton 12 miles

Delightful small residential and agricultural estate featuring extremely attractive Tudor-style house in a beautiful setting overlooking pastureland. Fine galleried hall, 3 reception rooms, study and garden room, 6 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 second floor bedrooms and 4th bathroom. Oil-fired central heating, good stabling and garaging. Entrance Lodge, heated swimming pool. Gardens with lake. Pastureland. **Approximately 88 acres.**

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644.
BAKER LORENZ & CO., London W1R 9HF. Tel. 01-499 8163.

WANTED
HERTFORDSHIRE/ BEDFORDSHIRE/WEST ESSEX EAST BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

Savills are retained by an international company to purchase a large country house suitable for use as an Agro-chemical and Biological Research Centre. Substantial accommodation is *required for use as conference rooms,* with secondary rooms and ancillary buildings adaptable for laboratories etc. together with approximately **100 acres of grazing land.**

Potential vendors of such properties, their agents or solicitors are invited to write in the strictest confidence in the first instance to:—

SAVILLS, 20 Grosvenor Hill, London W1X 0HO. R. N. Kingscote.

SUFFOLK/ESSEX BORDER

Adjoining the River Stour.
Colchester 11 miles. Sudbury 4 miles.

DUNSTEAD FARM, BURES

2 modern cottages. Farmbuildings with Grain Storage and **166 acres approx. of productive arable land with Vacant Possession.**

SAVILLS, Chelmsford. Tel.: (0245) 69311 and Halstead (07874) 5111.

NORTH NORFOLK
Wells-next-the-Sea

Attractive North Norfolk sea port. **Well fitted modern 3 bedroom houses around courtyard** close to quay, full central heating, compact gardens, garages. **From £17,950.**

SAVILLS, Fakenham. Tel (0328) 2396.
CASE & DEWING, Wells-next-the-Sea. Tel. (032871) 203.

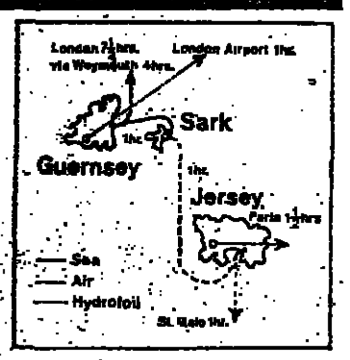
SUSSEX

Rushlake Green 1 mile,
Eastbourne 14 miles, London 55 miles
(90 minutes by road & rail)

Outstanding Queen Anne House in a beautiful rural position with far reaching views over surrounding country. Hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom with passenger lift, 5/6 bedrooms, including playroom, 3 bathrooms, oil-fired central heating, attractive Oast cottage, period barn with garaging for 5, stable block, garden pond and paddock. **About 4½ acres.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel. 01-499 8644.

Sark Channel Islands



A rare opportunity to purchase one of the Island's forty freeholds.
No income tax, capital gains tax or VAT and no motor cars.

Regular boat service from Guernsey. Direct twice-daily flights Guernsey/Heathrow and Gatwick, also to Southampton, Birmingham and Bournemouth.

This unique property, of considerable historic interest, extended and improved over the years is now one of the Island's most charming houses, situated on an elevated site with panoramic views over the sea and adjoining islands.

Hall, 2 cloakrooms, magnificent upper floor drawing room, small study, well fitted kitchen, passenger lift. Suite of bedroom, study and bathroom, 5 further bedrooms and 3 further bathrooms. Large nursery/studio. Oil-fired central heating. Barn, farmbuildings. Garden and farmland. **16 acres.**

SAVILLS, London. Tel.: 01-499 8644
MARTEL MAIDES LE PELLEY & MOY. St. Peter Port, Guernsey. Tel.: (0481) 21203

RIVER TAY—DALGUISE BEAT

Rare chance to purchase a beat on one of the top and most exceptional Scottish rivers.
1 mile of both banks on the River Tay
119 fish average

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel. 01-499 8644
J. T. SUTHERLAND & CO., Bank of Scotland Buildings, Brechin, Angus.
Tel. Brechin 2187.

PERTHSHIRE—Blairgowrie

Dundee 16 miles, Perth 16 miles, Aberdeen 60 miles

Fine family house with frontage to the River Ericht, set in over 6½ acres of its own grounds. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, billiards room, terraced gardens down to river, greenhouses and outhouses. Exceptional policy woodland. Trout and Salmon fishings by arrangement.

J. T. SUTHERLAND & CO., Brechin, Angus. Tel. (03562) 2187

PERTHSHIRE—Glenisla

Dundee 24 miles, Perth 30 miles

Fine house beautifully situated in one of Scotland's finest Glens set in its own ground of 2¼ acres. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, study, 3 bathrooms, oil-fired central heating, large kitchen, well laid out grounds with timber chalet comprising lounge, bar area, bedroom, bathroom and sauna.

J. T. SUTHERLAND & CO., Brechin Angus. Tel. (03562) 2187

Scotland

SUTHERLAND — 1,482 ACRES

Inverness 67 miles, Golspie 9 miles

Attractive modernised lodge and two cottages with an easily managed sporting estate and productive salmon river. Lodge, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. **Two cottages. Grouse walking up. Four stocked Lochs. 2½ miles Salmon fishing.**

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel.: 01-499 8644.
BINGHAM HUGHES & MACPHERSON, 6 & 23 Queensgate, Inverness. Tel.: Inverness (0463) 36544.

Switzerland

GENTHOD—GENEVA

Superb 18th century style country house in secluded position in small village close to Geneva, the airport and United Nations centre, with views overlooking the lake to the distant Alps and Mont Blanc.

Fine reception hall, 3 reception rooms en suite, 5 principal bedrooms with 3 bathrooms, en suite, 4 secondary bedrooms with 4th bathroom, oil-fired central heating, double garage, gardens and terrace.

About 3 acres. For sale freehold subject to Swiss regulations on property purchase.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel. 01-499 8644

DUMFRIESSHIRE

Dumfries 2 miles, Carlisle 37 miles

TERREGLES BANKS

Charming stone built period house overlooking open farmland with hills beyond. 3 reception rooms, nursery, modern kitchen, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oil-fired central heating. Traditional steading with garaging, garden and paddocks.
About 13 acres

SAVILLS, London. Tel. 01-499 8644
J. T. SUTHERLAND & CO., Brechin, Angus. Tel. (03562) 2187

CAITHNESS—Whaligoe Bay

Wick 8 miles

Skilfully converted house and old Herring Curing Yard on a spectacular site above Whaligoe Bay, south of Wick.

3 reception rooms 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, outbuildings. For sale due to change of plan, vacant possession with immediate entry can be given.

Offers in excess of £15,000

J. T. SUTHERLAND & CO., Brechin, Angus. Tel. (03562) 2187

KINCARDINESHIRE (616 Acres)

Laurencekirk 4 miles, Montrose 10 miles, Aberdeen 30 miles, Dundee 40 miles

TULLO FARM

For sale by private treaty as a whole or in two lots.
Lot 1: Farmhouse, commodious modern farm buildings, 2 cottages. **332 acres arable—450.1 acres in all.**
Lot 2: Small modern farmhouse, traditional steading. **120 acres arable—156 acres in all.**

SAVILLS, London Tel 01-499 8644
J. T. SUTHERLAND, Brechin, Angus. Tel. (03562) 2187

SAVILLS
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20 Grosvenor Hill, London W1X 0HQ
Telex: 263796

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ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA & BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066
THE ROYAL OPERA
Tonight (Prom) & Tue 7 Carmen: Tomor. (Prom) 7.30 Fidelio: Mon. (Prom) 6.30 Die Frau ohne Schatten. Seats available Tue.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Fri. (Prom) 7.30 The Dream, Apollo, The Concert: Sat. (Prom) 7.30 Serenade, Afternoon of a Faun, Twilight, Elite Syncopations. 65 Amphi seats for all perfs. on sale from 10 a.m. on day.

COVENT GARDEN PROMS
in assoc. with Midland Bank
THE ROYAL OPERA. Tonight 7.0 Carmen. 700 STALLS PROMENADE PLACES at 50p avail. from 1 hour before curtain up.

COLISEUM 01-836 3161
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight, Fri. & Tue. 7.30 TOSCA; Tomor. 7.30 KING ROGER; Sat. 7 DON CARLOS.

COLLEGIATE THEATRE, Gordon St W.C.1. LONDON OPERA CENTRE presents a double bill of LES MALHEURS D'ORPHEE — Milhaud and A DINNER ENGAGEMENT — Berkeley April 7, 8, 9 & 10 at 7.30. Box Office: 790 4468.

SADLER'S WELLS TH., Rosebery Ave., EC1. 837 1672 (Recorded bkg. inf. 278 5450). Until April 10. THE SCOTTISH BALLET. Evs. 7.30. Mats. Sats. 2.30. Tonight: Giselle. Tomorrow & Friday: Quadruple bill. Sat.: Mary Queen of Scots.

CONCERTS

SPRING AT SNAPE MALTINGS
English Music Theatre previews: Tom Jones (Oliver) 8 p.m. April 8; Cinderella (Rossini) 8 p.m. April 9; EMT Orch. Aronwitz 3 p.m. April 14; St. John Passion 3 p.m. April 16; Ldn. Mozart Plyrs.-Holmes 8.30. April 17; Kaleidoscope Children's Concert Luxon Willison Cant 11 a.m. April 19. Booking now: Aldeburgh Festival Office Tel. 072 885 2935

MUSIC STUDIO with piano for practice or teaching. Victoria. 834 4368.

THEATRES

ADELPHI THEATRE. 01-836 7611 Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Thurs. Sat. 3.0
VIRGINIA McKENNA JOSS ACKLAND
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
BEST MUSICAL OF 1975 Awards
LAST WEEK—must end Saturday

ALBERY. 836 3878 Prevs. from April 9 at 8.15; Opens April 20 at 7. National Theatre Production COLIN BLAKELY in
EQUUS
by PETER SHAFFER
DIRECTED BY JOHN DEXTER
"Electrifying throughout." F. Times.

ALDWYCH. 836 6404. Inf. 836 5332 Royal Shakespeare Company Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Wed., Sat. 2.0 THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR LIMITED SEASON—BOOK NOW!

AMBASSADORS. 836 1171. Evgs. 8.0 Mat. Tues 2.30. Sat. 5.30, 8.30
HAPPY AS A SANDBAG
THE WONDERFUL HIT MUSICAL
"All the fun of the Forties . . . Super, hilarious, delightful."—D. Exp.

APOLLO THEATRE. 01-437 2663 Evenings 8.30. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
BARRY HUMPHRIES in HOUSEWIFE—SUPERSTAR !!

CAMBRIDGE. 836 6056. Evenings 8.0 Wed. & Sat. 5.0 & 8.15
LONDON'S FOREMOST FAMILY MUSICAL
THE BLACK MIKADO
Best musical '76 & probably '77 S. Tms

COMEDY THEATRE. 01-930 2578 Evenings 8.0 Sat. 5.0 & 3.30
ADAM FAITH in CITY SUGAR
by Stephen Poliakoff
"Brilliant . . . amusing & exciting." FT
"VERY VERY FUNNY". S. Tel.
EVG. STANDARD AWARD WINNER

CRITERION. 930 3216. Evenings at 8. Sats 5 and 8. Mat. Thurs. 3.
ANTON RODGERS PETER VAUGHAN and NICOLA PADGETT in
GASLIGHT
"A CLASSIC AMONG STAGE THRILLERS" Daily Mirror.

DRURY LANE. 01-836 8108 Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Wed. & Sat. 2.30
MICHAEL CRAWFORD in BILLY
A NEW MUSICAL
"MICHAEL CRAWFORD—A WHOPPING WONDERFUL STAGE STAR" [illegible] "HE AND HIS [illegible]" S. Express.

DUCHESS. 836 8243. Evenings 8.0 Fri. Sat. 6.15 & 9.0
OH! CALCUTTA!
NOW IN ITS 6TH YEAR
"Breathtakingly beautiful."—S. Tel. "The nudity is stunning."—D. Tel.

DUKE OF YORK'S. 836 5122. Evgs. 8 Fri. & Sat. 5.30, 8.30. Last 2 weeks.
LESLIE PHILLIPS ROY KINNEAR
"Two of the funniest men on the British stage. Laughs come thick & fast"
ROGER'S LAST STAND
OVER 150 PERFORMANCES

DUKE OF YORK'S. 01-836 5122. Red. price prev. Apl 13. Opens Apl. 14
ELIZABETH SEAL, SHEILA STEAFEL in the musical
SALAD DAYS

GARRICK. 01-836 4601. Evgs. 8.15. Mat. Wed 3.0, Sat. 5.0 & 8.40
RICHARD BRIERS "Marvellous." Gdn.
ABSENT FRIENDS
"ALAN AYCKBOURN'S FINEST FUNNIEST PLAY."—Harold Hobson.

GLOBE. 437 1592. Evenings 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.0 & 8.15.
TONY BRITTON PETER BLYTHE, JILL MELFORD
THE CHAIRMAN
A Comedy by PHILIP MACKIE
"Most enjoyable, real delight." D. Tel.
"Wickedly revealing comedy." E. News

GREENWICH 858 7755. Opens tonight 7.0. Subs 8.0. Mat. Sat. 2.30. Bernard Bresslaw, Andrew Sachs in RELUCTANT HEROES.

GREENWOOD, LONDON BRIDGE. Until May 22. Evgs. 8.0. Mat. Sat. 4.30. Festival du Theatre Français. Until April 3. ARRABAL. "A SUPERB PRODUCTION." Gdn. [illegible] Simultaneous translation 403 0692.

GREENWOOD, LONDON BRIDGE April [illegible] for 1 week only. Evgs. 8.0, Sat. [illegible] Mat. Wed. 2.30. New [illegible] Musical THE DREAM JUGGLER

HAMPSTEAD. 722 [illegible] Until Sat. [illegible] Ortrud Beginnen from Berlin entertains!

HAYMARKET. 930 9832. Evenings 8.0 [illegible] Wed. 2.30. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15 [illegible] Woodward, Geraldine McEwan, [illegible] Edward Hardwicke in [illegible] Lonsdale's
ON APPROVAL
[illegible]

PUBLIC NOTICES

[illegible]

THEATRES

HER MAJESTY'S. 930 6606. Evgs. 8. Mats. Wed. 2.30. Sats. 5.45, 8.30. The New Hit African Musical
IPI TOMBI
"Pulsating musical."—Ev. News. "The huge cast is superb."—S. Times.

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Evgs. at 8 (Dnr. 7) THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SWAMP by Royce Ryton 1.15 p.m. QUENTIN CRISP

KING'S ROAD THEATRE. 352 7488. Mon. to Th. 9.0. Fri., Sat. 7.30, 9.30
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
"BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR."
"Impossible to over-praise." Punch.

LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE, 14 Dagmar Passage, N.1. 01-226 1787. Sat. April 3rd. 11 a.m. SNITCHITY-TITCH. 3 p.m. A TRUMPET FOR NAP. Sun. April 4th 3 p.m. A TRUMPET FOR NAP.

LYRIC IN REPERTORY. 437 3686 Today at 3.0 & 8.0
JOAN PLOWRIGHT, HELEN MIRREN JOHN MOFFATT, FRANK GRIMES and PETER McENERY in
THE SEA GULL
(Must end April 28th)
Tomorrow to Wed. April 7
THE BED BEFORE YESTERDAY

LYTTELTON (new National Theatre) 928 2252. Today (reduced price mat.) at 2.30 and Tonight at 7.45:
PLUNDER
by Ben Travers
Tomorrow at 7:
HAMLET
OVER 100 EXCELLENT £1 SEATS ON SALE DAY OF PERFORMANCE ONLY FROM 8.30am (75p FOR MAT)

MAYFAIR. 629 3036. 493 2031 Mon.-Th. 8.15. Fri., Sat. 5.45 & 8.30 James Bolam, Jane Asher, Stephen Moore in Christopher Hampton's
TREATS
"SENSATIONAL." Sunday Times.
"VERY FUNNY." Observer
Seats from 80p. Dinner-Show £6.50

MERMAID. 248 7656. Food 248 2835 Evg. 8.15. Mat. Fri., Sat. 5.15
RICHARD BECKINSALE is "Side-splittingly funny" (D. Mail)
in FUNNY PECULIAR
"Mike Stott's exceptionally fine vastly entertaining, brilliant comedy." S. Times. "More good laughs than any other play in London." Observer. Seats from 75p. Dinner Show £3.95.

NATIONAL TH.—See under Lyttelton.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon. to Th. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.0 & 8.40
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

PHOENIX. Theatre Season 1976. FOR 6 WEEKS ONLY
Evenings 8.0. Mat. Thur. Sat. 3.0
GLYNIS JOHNS LOUIS JOURDAN
"A superb lesson in the art of farce-playing."—Daily Mail.
13 RUE DE L'AMOUR
"Bedroom farce at its funniest."—People. Book Now 01-836 8611

PICCADILLY 437 4506 Mon. to Fri. 7.45. Sat. 5.15 & 8.30. Mat. Wed. 3
"Absolutely enchanting musical" New York Times
VERY GOOD EDDIE
"Absolutely first class musical" Sun Times. "A treat not to be resisted." Gdn. "Strongly recommended." F.Tms. "Broadway smash hit goes right to the top with full marks." Dly Mail.

PRINCE OF WALES 01-930 8681 Mon.-Th. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 5.30, 8.30
"Welcome to a great new musical" —Daily Mirror.
MARDI GRAS
"Brilliant. Most exciting Musical for a long, long time." Sunday Times. "At last a British Musical to sing about." Sunday Mirror.

QUEEN'S. 01-734 1166. Evenings 8.0. Mat. Thurs. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30.
Winner of all the awards for BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR
Michael GAMBON in Simon GRAY'S
OTHERWISE ENGAGED
Directed by Harold PINTER

REGENT. 323 2070. Evenings 8.30. Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15
2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES
LET MY PEOPLE COME
AN ADULT MUSICAL
"Never a dull moment."—E. News. 100 tickets held for sale at door.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR THEATRE 734 1593 (7, 9, 11 p.m., inc. Sunday)
PAUL RAYMOND presents
THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA '76

ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564. Opens Ton't at 7. Subs. evs. 8. Sat. 5 & 8.30: Angela Pleasance in THE JOURNEY.

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745. Evgs at 8. Sats. 5 and 8.30
PARCEL POST
by YEHI AJIBADE
"BEST BLACK ACTING I HAVE SEEN ON ANY STAGE."—Times.
TICKETS FROM 60p

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Mats. Tues. 2.45. Sats. 5 & 8
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
WORLD'S LONGEST EVER RUN
24TH YEAR

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evenings at 8. Mats. Wed. at 2.30 & Sat. 5
Avril ANGERS & Derek BOND
in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER AT THE VICARAGE

SHAW THEATRE 01-388 1394. Fulton Mackay in THE CARETAKER by Harold Pinter. Prevs. Fri. Sat. Mon. 7.30—all seats £1. Opens Tuesday at 7.0. Subs. Evgs. 7.30.

STRAND. 836 2660. Evgs 8.0. Mats. Thur. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
Doris Hare McDonald Hobley Arthur Howard Barry McGinn
NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH 5th Year

THEATRE ROYAL, Stratford, E.15. 01-534 0310. Evenings at 8.00. FEYDEAU'S HILARIOUS FARCE
OUT OF PRACTICE

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. Evgs. 8 Mats. Tues 2.45. Sats. 5 & 8
Margaret LOCKWOOD
Paul DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM
DOUBLE EDGE
"SUPERB . . . the cleverest who-dun-it I have seen for years."—Dly. Tel.

VICTORIA PALACE. 834 1317 Opening April 8th for a season:
TERRY SCOTT JUNE WHITFIELD
A BEDFULL OF FOREIGNERS
Dinner & best stall £5 inc. (Mon.-Th.)

WHITEHALL. 01-930 6692 7765 Evenings 8.0. Sat. 6.45, 9.0
PAUL RAYMOND presents
Britain's No. 1 Sex Symbol
FIONA RICHMOND in COME INTO MY BED

WIMBLEDON THEATRE. 946 5211
ACTORS COMPANY
WIDOWERS' HOUSES
Mon.-Thurs. 7.30. Fri. & Sat. 8.15. Sat. mat. 2.30.
Next week HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312
PAUL RAYMOND presents
LET'S GET LAID
[illegible]

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028. Evgs. at 8. Sats 5 & 8.15. Mats. Wed. at 3.
JIMMY JEWEL in
COMEDIANS
By Trevor Griffiths. "The most exciting play in London."—S. Times. "Best play in London."—Newsweek.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 From 8.15 Dng. & Dance. At 9.30 New Revue SWEET TEMPTATION [illegible]
PETER GORDENO

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2 Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861. Sep. perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE.
1 THE SUNSHINE BOYS [illegible]
2 BARRY LYNDON [illegible]

ACADEMY ONE [illegible] POACHERS (AA) [illegible]

ACADEMY TWO. [illegible] AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PRINCESS (A) and LEGACY [illegible]

ACADEMY THREE [illegible] LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS [illegible]

CASINO. [illegible] THE HINDENBURG [illegible]

COLUMBIA [illegible] THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING [illegible]

CURZON. [illegible] Alan Bates in Simon Gray's BUTLEY [illegible]

DOMINION. [illegible] MOSES [illegible]

EMPIRE. [illegible] THE SLIPPER AND THE ROSE [illegible]

GATE CINEMA. [illegible] SANSHO DAYU [illegible] LAST DAY [illegible]

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE [illegible] DAVID BOWIE in THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH [illegible]

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THE ARTS

James Jefferys: The Deluge

The singular reappearance of James Jefferys

Detective work in art has all the fascination of a treasure hunt, and every now and then in fact turns up a treasure. Take the eighteenth-century painter James Jefferys.

It has been a relatively frequent occurrence, especially in the first half of this century, for the works of Italian Renaissance painters to be, metaphorically, thrown in the melting-pot, out of which, by some mysterious alchemy, a new artistic personality has arisen, his works extracted from the *oeuvres* of various artists and welded together in the crucible of an art historian's mind. But there must be few parallels for this in eighteenth-century English art. Yet this is what has happened in the case of James Jefferys (1751-84), whose works, mainly drawings, have been assembled in a somewhat similar way, although it must be said that it has long been known from contemporary documents that he did exist. An exhibition of drawings, convincingly attributed to him by Timothy Clifford and Susan Legouix, is at the Victoria and Albert Museum until May 23.

It all started with a collection of drawings found at the Maidstone Museum and Art Gallery. They were in a folder labelled "Jefferys" and two are signed or inscribed "J. Jefferys". James Jefferys being a native of Maidstone, it became clear that they were indeed by him, and using this collection as a starting point, it became possible to attribute other drawings to him, notably some sheets in the collections of the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Crawford School and Gallery, Cork, and the Huntington Library, California. Some of these had been loosely assigned to James Barry, though it was clear to scholars of the period that they could not have been by Barry. Other drawings by Jefferys are close in style to the work of John Hamilton Mortimer and Gavin Hamilton. They show an artist working, ambitiously yet somewhat uneasily, in the grand heroic neo-classical style of the period, with multi-figure compositions of classical subjects. The figures gesture expansively, arms flung wide and high, their tree-trunk-like necks set on heavily muscled bodies. Many of the subjects have not yet been identified, and it seems that, in common with Mortimer and Fuseli, Jefferys chose some abstruse and obscure themes from classical mythology and other literature to illustrate.

Though Jefferys is documented in scattered contemporary references such as Thomas Jones's *Memoirs*, only one work of his was, I believe, previously known, the large and now extremely dirty picture which he exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1783 entitled *The Scene before Gibraltar on the morning of the 14th of September, 1782, as described in Gen. Elliott's and Brig Curtis's letter*. This painting hangs on the staircase of the Maidstone Museum and is quite untypical of his other work, the newly-discovered drawings.

Jefferys was something of a prodigy and he died in his early thirties before his early promise could be fulfilled, if indeed it ever would have been, as it was clear that he was a wild young man. He had the distinction of winning a gold medal for the best historical drawing at the Royal Academy in 1774 and he was the first artist, on the recommendation of Joshua Reynolds, President of the Academy, to receive a travelling scholarship from the Society of Dilettanti, enabling him to study in Italy where he stayed from 1775 until 1778. His drawings now at the Royal Academy are inscribed and dated, though not signed, as being done in Italy during these years, and it was this which had always invalidated their attribution to Barry, though no satisfactory candidate could, until now, be found for them.

The technique of these drawings, and those at the Victoria and Albert Museum and at Cork, is unusual in that they are in pen-and-wash on a mosaic of sheets of tracing paper, varnished and pasted down on cartridge. This seemingly enabled Jefferys to duplicate the composition by working from this collage "cartoon" on tracing paper and thus, as the organizers of the exhibition suggest, produce a number of large, finished and saleable drawings.

John Sunderland

Royan's orgy of new music

Fernando Grillo gets down to work on his doublebass

At the mouth of the Gironde between Cognac and the Atlantic stands the pleasant white-washed seaside resort of Royan, renowned for its sandy beaches and its crustacea. In four months' time the town and its suburbs of St George, St Palais and St Sulpice will be aswarm with families on vacation, and the Casinos of Royan will hum at night with parents on the flutter. In March it is rather cold for swimming though warmer, even in the Atlantic breeze, than the south coast of England (some surfers in skin-diving gear were attracting gasps of admiration in St Sulpice last week). The roulette tables are still in hibernation, the seafood at its most succulent just now. So, for the last 13 years, the Casinos of Royan have been extending the season with a three-week festival in March devoted to the contemporary arts.

The Royan Festival operates on a *soi-disant* small budget. It has often threatened to cease for lack of funds, as recently as last year, yet it survives, is well attended (audiences for the concerts are far larger than at similar events elsewhere in my experience), and brings extra trade to the town as well as to French national tourism, and valuable publicity to a host of aspiring artists. This year's festival, mounted under conditions of "draconian restriction" according to the organizers, has been shared between the theatre of troubadours and *jongleurs* from AD 1000 until now, the oriental cinema, photography and other visual art, and new music as well as modern dance.

Like other festivals of new music Royan crams the maximum into the minimum. This year's programme proudly announces 85 works of which 57 are being given their first performance, 18 their French premiere, by 60 composers from 17 countries, 26 of the composers being 35 years old or less. In theory it is a noble venture: within a week we can discover what new music has been doing since last time, at a moment when the post-Webern revolution is over and composers are very rapidly consolidating on creative experience during those turbulent years.

In practice this sort of new music festival is as absurd as the standard musical competition. At Royan there are three or four concerts every day, starting at ten in the morning, finishing often well after midnight. All the time we are listening to brand new music: it is difficult, if not impossible, to sustain open-minded concentration in the circumstances.

Nobody can complain that the Royan Festival is uneventful. There were workshops and sessions of discussion as well as concerts, mostly in the cosy if over-heated theatre of the principal Casino, sometimes in its lecture room; for an organ recital we moved to the modern church of Our Lady, for one orchestral concert to a covered hall in the local football stadium—it looked like an aircraft hangar but the sound was clean and immediate, and there, too, the hall was well-filled.

At most contemporary music sessions the composer is necessarily the star. For this year's Royan there was a special guest of honour, the German cellist Siegfried Palm who gave one of the festival's opening concerts, a solo recital, and was on hand all the week to play new works when required. Perhaps because of him the executant musician was quite prominent throughout the week, an emphasis apt nowadays when composers often expect their interpreters to offer more than mastery of one instrument: they must be prepared to move round the platform while playing, to shout, clap, play percussion instruments, even sing as well (or, if singers, to play too).

Mr Palm gave the lead with his virtuoso comic display of moans, humming, shouts, whispers, mezzo-cantabile and the like in Kagel's *Siegfried P*, with his prestidigitation of plectrum and mute between lips and hand or bridge in other works, and with many another special accomplishment. His playing visibly involves the whole man, not just two arms: whatever he plays he characterizes as if he were an involved actor. In a dull piece he works even more effortfully to draw gold from what the rest of us suspect to be dross. He has a special gift for the articulation of short, simple phrases as if they were eternal truth.

He cannot always pull the wool over other people's ears: Isang Yun's cello concerto was obviously hard work and unprofitable. When he came to play Cristobal Halffter's concerto there was no doubt that it was the outstanding contribution to the festival, marvellous music in its own right, solidly constructed, grateful to a musicianly interpreter, more than grateful to this one and his listeners.

He deputed some of the solo cellist's work to a young French colleague, Alain Meunier, a worthy partner for Palm in Yoshihisa Taira's *Interferences I* for two cellists, but also musical and dignified in Junsang Bahk's "Concerto Meditazione" where he had to rove round the percussion department and later perform an intricate cadenza while the percussionists crowded round and interfered with his cello. He was most persuasive in a Bach-based solo cello piece, *Einsatz* by Paul-Heinz Dittrich.

The workshop concerts were shared between Fernando Grillo, an Italian composer and doublebass player, and the Spanish clarinettist Jesus Villa-Rojo. Mr Grillo showed extraordinary composure in a concerto by Aldo Clementi which specially featured play on a bootlace hung from the instrument (it was over-long but contained some attractive music). In a midnight recital he gave a cogent realization of Stockhausen's *Awake*, like many indeterminate works by this composer only acceptable when superbly interpreted as here, then gave an amazing demonstration of bass-playing with two bows while the instrument is laid horizontally, in Earle Brown's "December 1952". Mr Grillo is clearly an accomplished actor and mime, as he showed in a piece by Bussotti when the cellist strokes the instrument and his own person, musically unprofitable since no tone is heard, but fascinating to watch.

William Mann

Squatters at the opera

Fidelio
Covent Garden

William Mann

The operatic promenade season at Covent Garden has begun again for the fifth time. Those people who claim that they cannot afford to go to the Royal Opera House must think again, since a seat (on the floor of the orchestra stalls) still costs only 50p, thanks to the Midland Bank. For that price you can see Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten* conducted by Solti, or *Le clemenza di Tito* by Mozart, with Dame Janet Baker (the production which recently so impressed audiences at La Scala), or Beethoven's *Fidelio*, which opened the prom season on Monday.

The sets of this *Fidelio*, by Hainer Hill, date from 1961 and are fairly austere, but still look well; the change of scenery in the second act happens in double-quick time, and the third *Leonore* overture is successfully dispensed with.

The production is now credited to Ande Anderson, looks spruce, and contains one or two novel-looking touches, especially the moment when Leonore throws her husband's fetters noisily to the ground before launching "O Gott; o welch ein Augenblick", the stunning vocal sextet which is the emotional climax of the opera and as moving as any ensemble in any opera for those who have hearts to rend. The prisoners, oddly, were left outside at liberty when the first act curtain fell.

Reginald Goodall is the conductor for this revival, strong in rhythm, not always slow in pace though expansive and noble in interpretative style; he does not care dearly enough for precise ensemble on stage or in the pit.

The cast includes James King's powerful Florestan, in good voice just now though his clothes look absurdly clean after two years in a damp dungeon; Donald McIntyre's admirable Pizarro, villainous but humanly credible and strongly sung; and David Ward's endearing Rocco.

Marita Napier is new to the title role here, although she has given us a telling Sieglinde. Her voice has grown and become firmer, but she moves the heart more in her dialogue than her music, and does not look heroic, stocky as her build is, and with a floppy long waistcoat.

Ryland Davies starts the opera promisingly with his jovial, self-confident Jacquino, strong in reaction to every change of events. Valerie Masterson's Marzelline is a strong supporting impersonation that could beneficially show off a shade more in the opening scene.

John Denver
London Palladium

Geoffrey Wansell

If there is a distinctive sound of the Seventies, as Elvis gave the Fifties or the Beatles gave the Sixties, it is almost certain to be John Denver, who opened a one-week season at the Palladium on Monday to a tumultuous ovation. He stands comparison with both, for in the past two years he has sold more records than any other artist in the world.

There is usually only one popular singer a decade who manages so completely to capture the popular taste, as Sinatra did for example. More girls in this decade will look into their boyfriends' eyes with Denver as the musical accompaniment, and it is easy to see why. His gentle simple songs of romance and the country somehow reflect the changes in society as the brittle rebellion of the Sixties ended. The young people of today have taken Denver to their hearts in exactly the same way as their parents took Glenn Miller, and there is no offence in that.

Certainly, it is possible to sneer. John Denver is as American as Coke and just as carefully, professionally blended. Superbly supported by a quartet of American musicians on guitar, ukelele, fiddle, bass and drums, he works with a beautifully arranged orchestra, very complicated and impressive film projection, and first-rate sound balance. All this combines to reinforce the image of a man who may be honest and charming, but is also ruthlessly professional in conveying his music to the widest possible audience.

His naivety may be disingenuous, but I doubt it. "I was 13 before I could walk down the street and chew gum at the same time", he says. But he loses none of his audience appeal for that. Denver is marketing a simple dream which touches the right chord in his audience. There is none of the tartness of Cole Porter or the vision of Bob Dylan, for Denver is one-paced by comparison with those unique lyricists. But he manages, nevertheless, to coax his audience to "relax, ease back in your seats, and let the music take you away".

It may sound cornpone cliché and staged, but Denver's magnetic stage charm, all owl glasses, blond hair and cowboy shirt, sweeps his very niceness out over his audience. They will not forget him for it.

Damnation of Faust
Festival Hall

Alan Blyth

Enthusiasm coursed through the Forest Philharmonic Society's account of *The Damnation of Faust* on Monday, but that would not have been enough to ensure a sound performance of the work. In fact, Frank Shipway and his cohorts from North-east London, together now for more than 10 years, have created something that London concert-going so badly needs: a sense of purpose and personal involvement, stemming from a community spirit and the close integration in performance that can come only through long, hard-working rehearsals between chorus and orchestra.

In this Berlioz the dedication showed in every section of the first half. The chorus, precise in attack and tonally secure, turned themselves easily from one characterization to another as the work demands. The orchestral playing was well defined and sound throughout each section. Mr Shipway, conducting without a score, guided his forces surely, not trying the impossible.

After the interval the long work went off the boil. A lumbering Minuet of the Will-o'-the-Wisps and an uncomfortably quick duet for Faust and Marguerite, which lacked its one essential of romantic ardour, and less confident singing and playing allowed the piece to become episodic, as it so easily can. Or perhaps it was just that the one fault fatal to Berlioz, being too careful, began to show in Mr Shipway's direction.

He may have been hampered by having a substitute Faust in Jean Dupouy (standing in for the indisposed Stuart Burrows). His performance veered between the uncertain and the poetic (the gently-sighed "Margaritas" as he thinks on her before their meeting). He had the forthright timbre for much of his more energetic music, but lacked a top C sharp.

Anna Reynolds, as musical as ever, seemed miscast as Marguerite. The part lies uncomfortably for her, and the Romance, though carefully phrased, needs a more seductive timbre. John Shirley-Quirk's sympathetic bass-baritone has not the bite for Mephistopheles. There is more eager malevolence in the part than he finds in it.

Daniel Adni
Wigmore Hall

Max Harrison

Daniel Adni dealt impetuously with the Haydn A flat Sonata which opened his recital on Monday the detail of the first movement in particular being fine-spun yet the structure never adequately clear. However, the central movement had an air of quirky freedom that was not inappropriate, it was easy to enjoy. the finale's innocent liveliness, and only in Schumann's *Faschingsschwank aus Wien* did real weaknesses become apparent.

That somewhat underrated piece, like other Schumann, is so full of half-lights, of veiled asides, that one does wonder if we are intended to understand the music completely. Mr Adni united the sharply varied moods of the opening Allegro with some conviction, yet only because he did not explore them deeply. The three middle pieces are less problematic, and the quiet poetry of the Romanza was rendered quite exquisitely. There was a pleasing rhythmic acuity to the Scherzino, the Intermezzo was suitably ardent, but in the finale everything was sacrificed to speed. True, this movement is marked "allegrissimo", yet at this pace one cannot help wondering if Mr Adni can properly hear what he is doing.

Debussy's piano music occupies a different world from that of Schumann's at times feverish outbursts, and one hoped Mr Adni would be more attuned to it. There was little atmosphere, though, to his account of *La Cathédrale engloutie*, and he again seemed happiest amid the rapid-fire of the outer movements of *Pour le Piano*. At some points there were nicely balanced textures here, but it was beginning to sound as if Mr Adni regarded speed as an answer to everything.

The Sarabande of Debussy's suite proved that he was perfectly able to play thoughtfully, however, and there were sensitive moments in the slow central section of Chopin's Polonaise Op 26, No 2. It is unfortunate that the same composer's Scherzo Op 31 was given over merely to a display of speed for its own sake, and it has to be said that on this showing Mr Adni is not fulfilling, on either the musical or pianistic levels, the obvious potential of his very considerable gifts.

Somerset Maugham musical

Liza of Lambeth a new musical based on Somerset Maugham's first novella, will open at the Shaftesbury Theatre on June 8. There will be previews from June 5. The book and lyrics are by William Rushton and Berny Stringle and the music by Cliff Adams. Liza will be played by Angela Richards and her mother by Patricia Hayes. Other leading roles are taken by Michael Robbins, Bryan Marshall, Kate Williams, Christopher Neal and Tina Martin.

Liza of Lambeth will be directed by Berny Stringle, with choreography by Michele Hardy, designs by Christopher Morley and costumes by Ann Curtis.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

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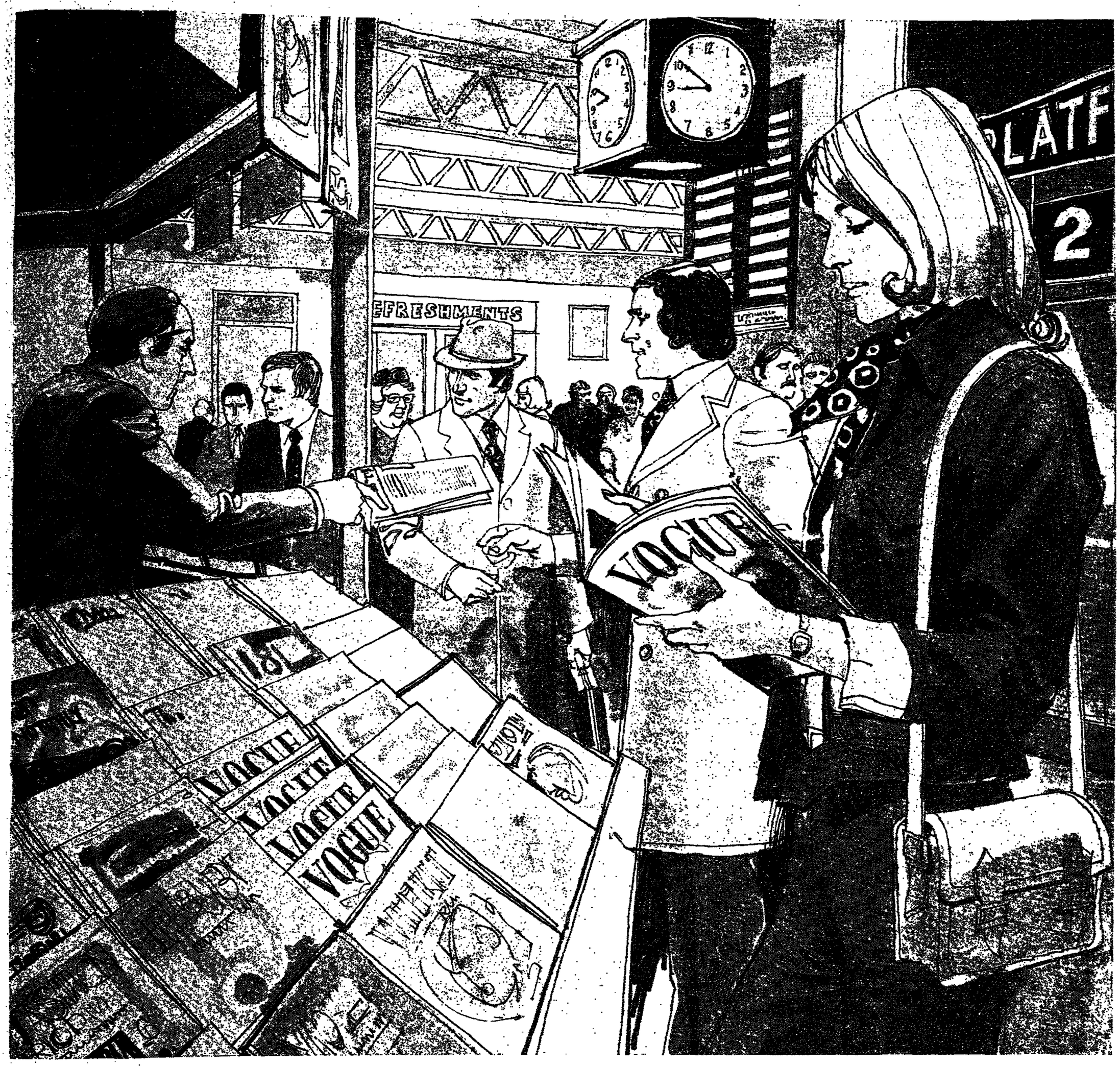

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Bernard Levin

Vintage Montgomery

Now that the obituaries have all been written and read, and we are on the eve of his funeral, I think I may presume to add my own memories of Montgomery: those of my readers who are surprised to find that I have any such memories may be assured that they are not half so surprised as I am.

It began a good many years ago, when I was conducting a series of television interviews, in which I had talked about their life and work to such people as Robert Bolt, Orson Welles, Enoch Powell, Michael Tippett (who claims—rightly, I am sure—to be the only man in the world with a refrigerator named "Bernard Levin", thus entitled because he bought it with the money Rediffusion paid him), Joost de Blank, Rebecca West, John Huston and Alexander Kerensky. (This was one I had set my heart on, for the reminiscences of the man who overthrew the Tsars, and was himself overthrown by Lenin, could hardly be anything but fascinating, and so they may have been, though since not six words of what he said were in a language that even roughly corresponded to English, I was hardly in a position to judge. It was never screened.)

Anyway, although Monty had appeared quite frequently on television at that time, he was always invited to address his mind to such matters as homosexual law reform or South African race relations—subjects on which, to put it as kindly as possible, his views were of no great significance or originality. What I suggested to my programme's producers was that I should ask him about war, generalship and allied matters, on which, after all, he might be presumed to know what he was talking about.

They rang him up (he always answered the telephone himself) and put the suggestion to him. "I'll have to see this chap Levin first", he barked; "tell him to come down here and have tea with me."

He came out to greet me. Before we were inside the house he had explained that he had insisted on our meeting "to see if we got on". "You might not like me", he said cheerfully, adding (and it really was said as an afterthought) "or I might not like you." But we liked each other from the start, and it was clear that we were going to have a good programme.

He was completely without pretentiousness or selfconsciousness. In the programme, I asked him—after discussing his well-founded reputation for never squandering a single life—to tell me how he felt about the fact that, when all the preparations for the battle had been made, and all the care and foresight expended, he nevertheless knew that within a few hours many men, perhaps many thousands, would be dead. "D'you know", he said, "I've never really thought about it like that", and then and there, while the very cameras held their breath, he thought about it on-screen, and then answered with a soldier's directness and simplicity that the important thing was to ensure that the troops knew that if they were killed their bodies would be "reverently collected and reverently buried".

After that, I used to go down to see him at his home in Hampshire, and grew very fond of him indeed; I don't really know why he liked me, though I suspect it was partly because I reased him, and partly because he could ask me about things of which he knew nothing and concerning which he would not pretend to knowledge he did not have—books, for instance, and much of politics, and people in the news whose names meant nothing to him. But I know why I liked him; it was because, so far from being the narrowly Puritan egoist of popular legend, I found him warm, touchingly innocent and vulnerable, full of a crisp, positively sly, humour, and quite extraordinarily thoughtful. (Once, I was visiting him while he was working, on his *History of Warfare*, with two young researchers. One of them, he felt, looked tired and jaded. "I know what you need", he suddenly said to the young man: "invite your girlfriend down here for the weekend.")

He used to go to Bournemouth for a fortnight every year, in the early spring, where he found himself in the company of Basil Liddell Hart, whom I had known for many years and who showed me great friendship and kindness. I would visit them both there, and at lunch saw it as my duty to posterity to provoke them into combat over military history and theory. Their disagreements had once been real, and touched by some feeling, but by then it was all battles long ago, and I would only have to mention Eisenhower or Churchill to have them spluttering at one another in mock-rage. Basil was very touched when, in my television programme with Montgomery, I led the Field Marshal into acknowledging his military debt to the Captain—something he had never done before.

Once, in front of the fire at Isington, I asked Montgomery what was the biggest row he had ever had with Churchill, and after his ritual protest (we were both used to it by then) to the effect that he had never had any rows with anybody, he told me. It seems that Churchill had been looking through some lists of equipment landed on the beaches almost immediately after D-Day, and found among the stores "Two dentist's chairs". Next time he saw Montgomery, he demanded to know why, at such a perilous moment, precious space had been found for such luxuries. "I told him", snapped Monty; "I told him. I said 'Prime Minister, a soldier with toothache's no use to me—he can't fight. Good morning.'"

He had that old man's habit of telescoping the generations below him, so that to him I was the same age as the village children. But it brought out yet more of his solicitude: he would pause to ask: "You know who I mean by Wavell?" or even "by Attlee?" And the solicitude went into all sorts of odd corners belying again the picture of a vain and selfish man; whenever we ate together he would insist, though he was of course notoriously teetotal, that I was supplied with wine of my choice, and would anxiously inquire whether it was really to my taste. (One of my happiest achievements, I may say, was persuading him to drink an entire glass of champagne, on his birthday, to the stupefaction of the *sommelier* at Claridge's.)

He reminisced endlessly, and with endless fascination for me. And constantly he would return to the questions through which he wanted to fill in the gaps in his own mind: "E. M. Forster, now", he would say; "is he a good writer? What sort of things did he write?" Always he was scrupulously courteous, escorting me to the garden gate, making unnecessarily sure I had complete instructions for the journey. I can see him now, his eyes piercing and kind at once; I can feel his hand on my arm as we negotiated steps; I can hear his voice, clipped and warm. Of his generalship I am not qualified to form an opinion; as a man I felt for him admiration and a great affection. I am glad I knew him; he added a glowing strand to my life, and anyone attacking him in my presence is in for an unpleasant surprise. May the earth lie lightly on a soldier's bones.

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Has Mr Mason the determination to abolish the Chiefs of Staff?

In today's defence debate, Mr Mason will be able to tell the Commons that the number of civilians working for the Ministry of Defence will be cut this year from 291,000 to 287,000, and that a further 10,000, as yet unspecified, cuts are planned for the next few years. Details of these further cuts are now being worked out by a Management Review Team (MRT) under an Assistant Secretary, Mr K. C. Macdonald.

The team is studying 10 separate categories of organization and will be producing reports on them between now and September. It has started by examining the scale of defence administration to see what economies can be made in fields like the frequency of stock control, how often bills are paid, whether or not Servicemen should receive their pay weekly, monthly, or even yearly, and so on.

This work is thus fairly similar to the attempts in each of the past six "major" defence reviews since 1964 to reduce the civilian "tail" in the ministry in line with the much more damaging cuts made in the Service "teeth".

In the first group of defence cuts after 1964 the ministry was able to cut the civilian "tail" almost proportionately to the military cuts, because reductions in overseas garrisons enabled large numbers of overseas non-military personnel to be declared redundant. However, the armed forces are now concentrated in Britain, and any further corresponding cut in their civilian support can only bite into the structure of Civil Service management at the very centre.

That is why by far the most important sector of the MRT's work concerns the very highest organization of the ministry. Its terms of reference enable it to study the structure of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and indeed, to question the advisability of even retaining a three-Service structure at all, with the possibility of a recommendation that it should be reduced to two services, with the RAF as the casualty.

The reason why it is so important is because, as the accompanying chart will explain the progressive attempts to unify and integrate the central organization and management of defence have, so far, not been pushed through to the point where the advantage of such a reform can be gained. They have been resisted in the name of the preservation of separate Service identity. This is naturally important at the operational end, but has never shown any particular need for separate identities on the staff side.

The separate Service ministries were all brought together in one building in 1964. But that reorganization created not a single entity but a four-part ministry—the three Services with a central defence organization perched rather precariously and often impotently on top of them. With each successive defence review it has been clear that if the three-Service nature of defence organization is to be perpetuated up to the very top of the ministry, fundamental decisions of defence strategy in a period of declining budgets are bound to represent the lowest common or acceptable denominator between the Chiefs of Staff of each Service.

The only way now in which we are likely to get more "bang for a buck" is by reducing the amount of triplication at the centre. Any study of the higher organization at the defence ministry shows how much overlapping is caused by the determination to maintain the separate Chiefs of Staff (Army, Navy, Air Force) and their separate secretariats.

As long as each Service has a separate Chief of Staff, he has to be supported by a full secretariat of civil servants representing just his service, ready to do battle round the table with his fellow Service chiefs and/or the Chief of Defence Staff, who together sit on the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

The table shows how much overlap this causes up to the very highest reaches of defence management. It means that, in support of each Service Chief of Staff, there has to be a Deputy Secretary in charge of what amounts to a fully blown department scarcely less weighty than it was when there were separate Service ministries; and in spite of the fact that there is now supposed to be a central defence staff not just coordinating the work of three Services, which would be a modest role indeed, but eventually initiating policy and administration, most of which now cannot and should not be conducted on a single Service basis.

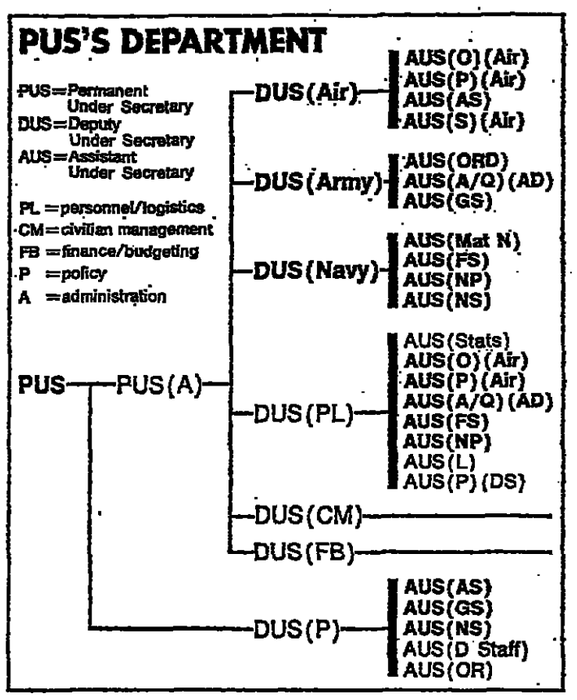
In the chart, for instance (known affectionately in the ministry as the "wiring diagram") one can see how all the subordinate departments in the single Services (shown in heavy type) have also to be represented in the Central Defence Staff. This emphasizes the fact that either the Defence Staff is still limited to coordination, and is therefore much too weak to impose the sort of radical structural changes required by our declining defence budget against the entrenched opposition of the Services, or else that the continued existence of the Service staffs is an indulgence caused mainly by tradition and by the need to preserve a career structure for a large number of civil servants.

By coincidence the Ministry of Defence is now presented with a tremendous opportunity to overcome these last two sources of opposition to radical change within its own Civil Service, and literally to "rewire" itself. Owing to an historical anomaly in its recruitment—caused by birth bulges after the First World War and the manpower expansion with rearmament before the Second World War—a substantial number of its senior civil servants are due to retire within the next five years—half the Assistant Under Secretaries, three quarters of the senior principals and two thirds of the principals. Although this only amounts to a few hundred civil servants, it is not so much their actual departure which will achieve savings (oiled by fairly generous early retirement terms) but the fact that they need not all be automatically replaced, or if they are, not with people whose age and tradition have naturally made them dedicated to the preservation of the existing tri-Service structure.

The last concerted exercise to achieve something of this kind—10 years ago—grew out of a report by Mr William Geraghty, now Permanent Under Secretary for Administration. His report was badly received by the Service departments, who managed to limit the damage to the abolition of separate Service ministers and their permanent secretaries, and the introduction of some coordinating machinery in administration. But the Chiefs of Staff remained in all their glory as members of a Chiefs of Staff Committee.

As long as the separate military hierarchies go to the very top it will remain impossible to clip their civilian counterparts to a very junior level. Has Mr Mason (or whoever succeeds him in the new Government) got the determination to abolish the Service Chiefs of Staff, and to replace them with a governing military body composed of senior officers in functional (as opposed to tribal) appointments? Has Sir Frank Cooper, the new Permanent Under Secretary? Has Sir Andrew Humphrey, the airman, who is to be next Chief of Defence Staff? Their support would be essential for any Secretary of State dedicated to this course. Since they both have an RAF background they might paradoxically be just the men for the job.

Charles Douglas-Home



Why Thailand will go 'absolutely democratic'

Thailand's Prime Minister, Kukrit Pramoj, hopes that the results of a general election on April 4 will allow him to form a stronger government than the 22-party coalition which was dissolved in January. Although there are 269 seats in the Thai National Assembly, there are more than 40 political parties and in the last government Mr Pramoj's Social Action Party controlled only 18 seats. Here Mr Pramoj talks to John Coast

Mr Kukrit Pramoj is not afraid that Thailand will be the next domino to fall in the wake of the communist victories in Vietnam. "Mark you, I always believed in a *limited* domino theory. How could Laos or Cambodia, former component parts of French Indo-China, be expected to stand on their own?" he said.

John Coast: *"You're not afraid of direct attack from Hanoi?"*

"I don't believe the Vietnamese want any more full-scale war. However, *we* are going to change. In the face of communist neighbours and reactionaries at home, Thailand is going to go absolutely democratic."

"And this won't give the organized communists their opening here?"

"Thailand can't stop the Russians trying to gain influence here. In the past, Britain, France and America all had 'influence' and we managed to survive. If Russia tries to fill the American vacuum, we can only try to encourage a spirit of independence in our neighbours. Cambodia, for example, doesn't want to be a super-power puppet. What she needs right now is salt—to salt her fish, her basic protein food. So I've opened up a border post and we are working out an exchange whereby Thailand provides that salt. On my trip to Peking I told them we wanted to renew normal relations with Cambodia and that we would be delighted to see Prince Sihanouk back there as head of state."

"But what about Laos and the North-East?"

"Problems exist. Their Prime Minister is very close to Hanoi. But their government wants friendly relations with us and I agree this must be so. The Laos are a gentle people and our blood brothers. I plan to open the border again soon to let vital supplies through to Vientiane."

"Which leaves Hanoi. Are you making any progress there?"

"A delegation from Hanoi came and stayed in Bangkok for a week. It was a friendly and very polished visit. I agreed to further talks in Hanoi itself. The basic problem remains the planes and other military equipment flown out of South Vietnam to Thailand after the American debacle. Hanoi finds this very important. I'm afraid the truth is that we had almost no control over anything flown out of Vietnam at that time.

"Our relations with America remain very, very good. It was the Chinese, in fact, who said to me: 'When you drive the wolves out of your front door, make sure you don't let tigers come in the back way'."

"Meaning the Russians?"

"Ah, they didn't specify. But we will continue to buy arms from the United States and use their advisers. But from now on, these will be purely technical civilians."

"How is your own large Chinese community behaving? With whom do they identify now?"

"First, the Thai-Chinese know that my government intends to continue good relations with China. Chou En-lai was a dear—a real friend. He bought 200,000 tons of rice when the price of our second crop was falling and bailed our farmers out. There's recently been a Chinese trade delegation in Bangkok. They aren't like the Russians, you know. They laugh a lot. Perhaps at different things—but I saw nothing gloomy in China. Obviously, there must be some dedicated Communists among our Chinese community—it would be very odd if there were not. But I'm convinced the huge majority of Chinese are loyal to Thailand—after all, they have it both ways: they are proud of their Chinese origin, and flourish in our free enterprise society."

"Could we now turn to your democratization policy. How are you getting democracy across to the grass roots?"

"In a great variety of ways which we widely publicize. For instance, those earning less than 1,000 baht (£25) a month get free bus rides. Those earning under 2,000 a month get stamps to subsidize their buying of rice. Schooling, and school books, are free, as is the medical service. We are constructing thousands of low rent apartments. This is mostly to benefit urban dwellers.

"But our most ambitious scheme is for the rice-growing farmer majority. We decided to pump money into the countryside through the sub-district councils. We simply told the people it was *their* money, and *they* had to decide how to spend it. By the end of 1975 we had distributed about 2,500 million baht."

"But wasn't this incredibly risky? I mean, how could the money be responsibly channelled? Through village headmen?"

"I told you we were going *absolutely* democratic. No, it's going to your grass roots—the members of the village councils themselves will decide how to spend it. In 1975 each village should have received about 480,000 baht, or £12,000. We expect the money to be used to improve irrigation canals, repair or build bridges, dams, roads, make school extensions, provide poles for electricity and so on."

"You're not afraid of terrible waste?"

"We are naturally putting what protective measures we can into our distribution. But country people won't build bridges in the middle of *paddy* fields. It's only, we think, by educating people practically in this way that we can begin to make democracy real to them.

"In the current year we have increased the sum for distribution to 3,500 million baht."

"So you are confident your system is beginning to work?"

"Yes. Because I was attacked by certain employers as there was no cheap labour available this year after the harvest. And that was because these funds were employing men who would normally be out of work when the rice had been harvested, and they didn't need to flood into Bangkok as exploitable labour."

"Lastly, may we touch briefly on a topic that has long plagued Thailand. You yourself have long been a scourge of the corrupt. Yet I hear your brother Seni's party are blaming you for keeping corrupt people near you in order to hold your coalition together. Are you satisfied that you have corruption under control?"

"Of course not. After less than a year in power? But there is a committee preparing a special report for me on this subject, which should be ready soon. If I am returned to power with a workable majority on April 4, I shall take very strong action the moment I have clear cases to proceed with. I'm not going to take emotional and precipitate action that will rebound on me.

"No, you must understand that my government inherited vast and awe-inspiring problems. Just imagine that as a result of the Vietnam war, Thailand now has 40,000 heroin addicts to deal with. That on its own is a horrifying problem. Give us a little goodwill and another year or two, than come back and judge us by our results."

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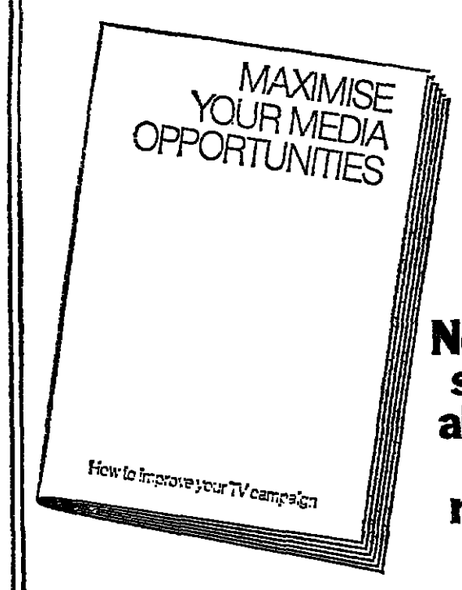

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The Times Diary

Sniffing out the stamp hoarders

The Post Office is anxious to know what you do with stamps once you have bought them. Excluding ribald possibilities, you might think the answer fairly obvious, but the Post Office does not agree. What worries their officials is that there are millions of secret hoarders hanging on to stamps worth some £20m at any one time.

Anxious to uncover the extent of such buried treasure, the Market Planning Division at Postal Headquarters sent 12,000 questionnaires (first class mail) on Monday to people and firms chosen at random. The covering letter explained vaguely that the information was needed for the "annual accounts".

The questions are, thorough to the point of absurdity. The instructions stress that stamps in a collecton should not be listed, nor national insurance and savings stamps. More bafflingly, the head of the house is urged to answer only on behalf of "members of the household with the same surname as yourself" (their bold type). And to press some the point: "The value of stamps held by people in the household with other surnames is not required."

Victims of this elaborate survey are required to list separately stamps held by 1, Yourself; 2, Your wife (sexism); 3, Others over 18; 4, Others under 18. Determined not to let any stamp slip under their net, the investigators add a fifth category: "There may be other postage stamps used by members of your household, but which are not held by individuals. . . . Please state the total value of any other stamps held in common." That takes care of stamphoarding cooperatives.

The survey, which has been carried out in three previous years, will cost £3,500, say the Post Office. But why, I asked them, could they not get the figure by subtracting the value of stamps on letters posted from the value of stamps sold.

"I know that sounds nice and simple", said a spokesman. "But it's not as simple as that." It never is.

In Hampstead's Vale of Health, Emanuel Herwald has finished his gravel road across 150 feet of the supposedly inviolate heath. His outraged neighbours are now wondering whether this will affect a planning application the Herwalds have made to build five houses on their garden. Permission was refused, partly because of lack of access and the Herwalds' appeal is pending.

Vote-getters

What do James G. Blaine, Alfred E. Smith and Barry Goldwater have in common? In spite of plumbing the depths of gimmickry, each came second in an American presidential election. The proof is to be found in a small exhibition which opened at the United States Embassy in Grosvenor Square yesterday.

The display shows campaign memorabilia from George Washington to Gerald Ford, taken from the collection of the University of Hartford, Connecticut. It includes Blaine's redesigning of the American flag as a campaign symbol which failed to stop Grover Cleveland, Smith's toby jugs of his own face which failed to keep Herbert Hoover out, and bars of Goldwater Soap ("with the four-year protection") which helped Lyndon Johnson to his only full term.

James Ayres, who organized the exhibition, told my reporter that although torchlight processions and whistle-stop tours on the backs of trains had given way to jets and campaigning by television, the printed material of election campaigns had changed little. The posters for honest, able and fearless Abe Lincoln, who favoured peace, prosperity and progress, are little different from those for honest, able and fearless Richard Nixon, who favoured the same things.

Book sail

A group of pacifists are planning to sail a battered weekend fishing ketch loaded to the gunwales with books to the Skeleton coast of Namibia (South West Africa).

The organizers do not think that his support, or that of Sean McBride, the UN Commissioner for Namibia, precludes the possibility that the South Africans, who rule Namibia, will sink them before they arrive or sabotage the boat before it leaves. The books they intend to take with them are mostly banned by the South African Government.

"Money is coming in gradually", said Roger Moody, who has organized pacifist missions to Cambodia and Bangladesh. "But we are a bit disappointed that we have not had more applications to be crew members. Sailing experience would be useful, but it is even more essential that the people all have experience of taking collective decisions in non-violent action. They will have to give six weeks to the project before they sail, and be prepared for every sort of contingency when they leave."

Pretentious

With an accidental sense of timing, the English Tourist Board yesterday followed up the launching of this year's Michelin guide to British restaurants with the launching of their own campaign to promote the virtues of English cooking. Guests were invited to the Mansion House to sample a banquet of Tubby Isaac's jellied eels, hare soup, Lancashire hotpot, Cumberland ham and Boodle's Orange Fool.

Christopher Driver, editor of the *Good Food Guide*, was unkind about the rival Michelin. "If you look at the 30 restaurants that Michelin has given a rosette to this year, you find that almost all of them specialize in French or pseudo-French cooking. The trouble is the catering colleges, who on the whole refuse to teach English cooking. They are all brought up on Escoffier, who is terribly out of date." He added that too many restaurants tried to be too pretentious, attempting foreign cooking that they did not really understand.

But Joe Curley, chef at one of the few traditional English restaurants of high repute in London (Simpson's In The Strand), was not impressed by the bewildering array of pigeon pie, saddle of lamb, rib of beef and Durham fluffin' pressed upon the guests. "Far too pretentious; they should have given us beef and kept the rest in a glass case for us to look at," he declared.

The hazards of translation in the European Parliament have given Michael Stewart, who heads Labour's delegation there, an undeserved reputation as an outdoorsman of unusual dexterity. He had spoken of his job as being like "paddling a canoe shooting rapids", but the German interpreter thought he had said "paddling a canoe shooting rabbits" and translated accordingly. Stewart, who is 69, was promptly wished good hunting by two German members.

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A MAN THE NATION WOULD TRUST

The second ballot confirmed the expectation that had been formed after the first. Mr Callaghan moved into the lead; Mr Michael Foot picked up the great majority of Mr Benn's votes but only a few from the other candidates, and Mr Healey remained a very distant third. Mr Healey still received 18 votes fewer on the second ballot than Mr Jenkins had received on the first, and has therefore gained nothing by his decision to stay in.

Mr Michael Foot has decided to go on into the last round and that will put the Labour Party to another ballot. As Mr Callaghan is already ahead, and is likely to get a large majority of Mr Healey's votes, there is no substantial doubt that Mr Callaghan will win that ballot also. In any case Mr Foot cannot do the job. The nation has to be united to face a period of great strain and difficulty. Mr Foot cannot unite the nation.

We are now therefore looking forward in all human probability to Mr Callaghan as Prime Minister. His personality is well known to the public. He has held the highest offices, including the Treasury and the Foreign Office. He is thought of primarily as an experienced and practical politician. He is not a political intellectual, but he has often shown a better understanding of public feeling than more intellectual colleagues. He has the character of a steady man and that is a quality that the British have always warmed to.

In his long career many people at one time or another have had to work quite closely with Mr Callaghan. They include political colleagues, civil servants, advisers, trade unionists, economists, journalists and so on. As he has come nearer and nearer to Downing Street in recent days they have been discussing him among themselves. The verdicts are not all favourable, as they would not be. But they all regard him as basically trustworthy. Journalists will say that in 15 or 20 years of experience of him they have not known him deceive them. It is not that he always answers their enquiries, nor is he one of those politicians whose relations with journalists are more personal than professional. But his yea is yea, his nay is nay, and his no comment is no comment.

This is important because the situation of the country requires a Prime Minister whom people can deal with. In the 1970's it has often been apparent how little power a Prime Minister has on his own. In their different ways that was true of Mr Heath's Prime Ministership and of Mr Wilson's second term. Yet a Prime Minister is an essential pivot of the system. Unless other men can establish satisfactory relationships of trust with the Prime Minister the system does not work. He does not have to be loved, though there is no harm if he is loved, he does have to be trusted.

The other essential virtue Mr Callaghan is rightly credited with is patriotism. His colleagues have seen him settle an argument by saying "well that might be good for the Labour Party, but it wouldn't be good for the country", or words to that effect. He has been in the Navy and represented the police, and he has their type of basic patriotism. It is a strong quality.

No one yet knows whom Mr Callaghan will appoint to succeed him as Foreign Secretary. Mr Roy Jenkins has an international reputation which makes him the obvious candidate. In that case the inner quadrilateral of power would be Mr Callaghan with his three chief colleagues, Mr Foot, Mr Jenkins and Mr Healey, to take them in the order of the first ballot. That would be a very strong team. It is a team whose personal relations would be good. It would cover all the essential relationships of government. Mr Foot and Mr Callaghan himself are on solid ground with the trade unions, Mr Jenkins has his international reputation and his strength with the progressive centre of British politics; Mr Healey, whatever next week may need to be said about his budget deficit, has won confidence for his grasp of economic affairs. Above all Mr Callaghan is a man the whole nation would accept as Prime Minister.

ANOTHER BAD CASE OF NEGLECT

The report on St Augustine's hospital in Kent is only the most recent of a succession of deeply disturbing accounts of conditions in British mental hospitals that have come to light since the Ely Hospital report of 1969. Each time there is a strong if short-lived reaction of public concern, and administrative action is taken to deal with what is usually rightly identified as a widespread tendency of which the inquests and inquiries only reveal occasional extreme examples. Since the Ely report there has been a painful reassessment of the basis of mental disability care and a considerable increase in spending upon it. In addition an elaborate machinery has been created for public oversight of standards in the health service as a whole and mental hospitals in particular. Yet here we are again with an account of shameful treatment of some of the most helpless members of the community, brought to light only because of the persistence of individuals who showed that the authorities were too easily satisfied.

Conditions at St Augustine's were not as squalid as those recorded in some earlier instances, and the cruel or thoughtless actions of staff working under severe pressure were less extreme than what happened elsewhere. But it is particularly disturbing that such failures should continue after seven years in which the attack on them has been among the first priorities of the health service —and that even now those with experience of mental hospitals acknowledge that many others are just as bad.

It is important not to be too censorious of the staff of the hospital as individuals. In the long-stay wards with which the report is concerned they had to cope with patients of the most trying and disheartening kind, sometimes difficult to control except by physical constraint. The wards were chronically under-manned, because the task is one that not many can face, and inconvenient and dreary because too little had been spent on them. The hospital, a large isolated community with 900 patients, tended to be inward-looking and apathetic about ways and means of improving the lot of its long-stay patients. It is a fundamental defect of health services in this and many other countries that disabilities where there is no gratifying prospect of a cure get less than their share of money and attention.

At St Augustine's this contrast was glaring. Only nine of the thirty-seven wards are for long-stay patients. In the others it is not disputed that treatment has been energetic and equipment and furnishings satisfactory. There is a warning in this. Public policy has long been to close the huge Victorian asylums and distribute treatment through local authority hostels and wings of general hospitals. The aim is right, for much of the demoralization of staff in long-stay wards is connected with the fact that even if they do succeed in rehabilitating a patient there is often nowhere he can go to take a step part of the way back to ordinary life. But St Augustine's shows that archaic backwaters can exist even under the same roof as enterprising medicine and administration.

Since the main deficiencies of the mental health services are likely to be with us until the end of the century, even on the government's estimate, the important thing is to ensure that places getting out of touch are identified more promptly and reorganized as St Augustine's has now been. Chronic mental patients are not often able to complain to the hospitals ombudsman or to their Community Health Council. The new Hospital Advisory Service, whose function is precisely to spot cases of this kind, did not make much of a showing in the affair. More interdisciplinary contact, more discussion, simply more thought, could have prevented most of what went wrong at St Augustine's. If the complacency had not spread far beyond the staff of the hospital, up to the district and area authorities and beyond, the necessary action could have been taken long before.

NOT SECURITY BUT A THREAT TO ISRAEL

The violence in Galilee yesterday should be a warning to Israel. Nothing like the number of casualties in Nazareth has been known for years. For some time now a tragic situation has been developing. For almost two months in the occupied West Bank and for a month past in Galilee the scale of demonstrations and the consequent police repression have been mounting. The reasons have been varied and are now shown to be subjects of direct conflict between Arabs and Jews and not agitation from outside directed by the PLO as was at first alleged. In such circumstances the conflict becomes self-generating, the police action and the casualties on one occasion become sufficient cause for the next demonstration.

As usual, the young have been the most active, but for the most part their teachers have supported them. However much communist instigation may originally have been to blame, Arabs of all religious and political persuasions have now joined in the protest and they have carried with them the mayors of Arab towns. Something like a fixed confrontation between Israel authority and Arab resolution has thus developed of a kind that may soon expand to a point beyond police action. If tempers are to be lowered and the demonstrations are to die away the Israel Government will have to risk some bold political moves.

This could mean making a sharp distinction between those who would argue that the Israel state must for its own security be limited in size and be confined as far as is reasonably possible to a Jewish population and those who have instinctively, if not as a matter of declared policy, looked to any opportunity of expanding the territory of the state irrespective of the number of Arabs thereby brought under Israel administration. The new borders are expected to be militarily more defensible than the old, but Israel is made weaker not stronger. Of course the distinction between these two views of Israel territory has long been blurred by circumstances and by the legacy of the successive wars. Yet the evidence of Arab discontent in recent months must make it ever more clear that too large an Arab population presents an insoluble problem. Some move must soon be taken that can divert the growing ill-feeling.

This can mean only a decision in principle that envisages Israel withdrawal from the West Bank territory. It would be made credible by measures that prohibit the creeping intrusion into the Arab areas of those who intend that Jewish settlement will give an established claim to the territory as a part of Israel that cannot be given up. Mr Rabin's past promises may have made it difficult for him to find a formula that will allay Arab fears. Yet the troubles of the past two months should have made it clear that the old pursuit of secure borders will always be misguided when the borders embrace a large Arab population.

Pleasures of spring

From Mr F. A. Sowan

Sir, Whenever there is a fine Sunday in March, *The Times* duly, dutifully, and apparently enthusiastically observes the emergence of motorists from whatever motorists do all the winter. Rarely, or never, is there any mention of other, less dangerous, less offensive, more healthy, and more creative springtime occupations such as walking Chiltern footpaths, digging the garden or allotment, painting the house, or photographing wild-flowers. Perhaps *The Times* is affiliated to the British Road Federation?

Yours pedestrially,
F. A. SOWAN,
1 Chaucer Cottages,
Pilgrims' Way,
South Croydon,
Surrey,

Radio phone-ins

From the Leader of Hillingdon Borough Council

Sir, I write drawing attention to what I believe is an ever-increasing insidious erosion of the freedom of the individual and organizations alike under the guise of entertainment to which the public in general may not be wholly aware. I refer to the current phone-in style programmes now so popular on radio, even the more serious of those presented by the BBC.

On one such typical programme recently on BBC Radio 4 a woman told how she had lived in Germany during the rise of Hitler, and likened it to the present situation in Britain today. She concluded by claiming that the elected members of Hillingdon Borough Council were, and I quote, "in fact almost Communist, really". This was an unfounded, scurrilous slander on the members of the council, as there is no one who is a Communist or a member of that party.

Indeed, among those in the majority Labour Group are many who are devout churchmen and women, while some are active members of the Roman Catholic Church, and at least one is employed by a religious organization. To them the slander was particularly offensive as communism is repugnant to their socialist ideals, yet they and the other members of the council were defenceless against such attack and intrusion into their characters.

In other radio and television programmes it is usual for the producer to give such victims an opportunity of denying such allegations, but with the phone-in type of broadcast this is not so. Unfortunately, these programmes are cheap to produce and are proliferating, and while I have dealt with a political matter, any person or organization is equally at risk from malicious minded people so long as they go unchecked.

Therefore, I believe the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority should insist that, when such statements are made, producers should be bound to make genuine, strenuous efforts immediately to contact persons and organizations so named, and offer them their basic principle so fundamental to British life—the right of reply.

Yours sincerely,
J. G. BARTLETT,
Leader of the Council,
London Borough of Hillingdon,
Majority Party Office,
Council Offices,
265 High Street,
Uxbridge, Middlesex.
March 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Newspaper decline in Manchester

From Mr Alan Fitch, Labour MP for Wigan, and others

Sir, We are seeking support here in the North-West for a cause which, we believe, is being dangerously neglected. Unless it is taken up vigorously, future generations will denounce us for our apathy.

We refer to the sensational decline in recent years of Manchester as Britain's second national newspaper centre. It is a decline only paralleled in these parts by the post-war contraction in the cotton industry.

Since the war a dozen major papers, published in Manchester, have gone to the wall and now three more great national newspapers are "rationalizing" their processes in the name of technological progress. Seven hundred jobs will be lost, including those of nearly three hundred journalists.

While seven hundred jobs in these days of high unemployment may not appear to be an excessive sacrifice for one industry to make in the name of scientific progress, what causes serious concern to many people in the North-West is the threat to the democratic processes which is posed by such a decline in newspaper production. It is not that seven hundred people in newspapers are more important redundant human beings than seven hundred others in the mill towns. It is the loss of their papers to our communities which chiefly concerns us.

The loss to our region of 200 creative journalists must mean a diminution of the northern voice in national affairs. New technological processes, it is argued, will still ensure the continuation of northern editions of the three national papers concerned. But the switching to London of the basic journalistic decisions involved in newspaper production—reporting, subediting and make-up—will mean that the character of the papers we receive will quickly change. The provincial voice of the north will be stifled.

If our fears are being over-stated let London, and Fleet Street in particular, consider this. Should it happen by the end of this century, with the development of a more unified Europe, that the British daily paper is made-up in Brussels, Paris or Bonn—all in the name of good economic common sense—will the affairs of London, or indeed of Britain, be more faithfully and feelingly reflected in a continental-based press?

And yet that is the problem that may have to be faced before the end of this decade, unless serious consideration is given now to the maintenance of a healthy and free press based in provincial Britain.

We are not concerned with the reasons which have brought about the present state of affairs. They are complex and we might even disagree about where responsibility lies.

What concerns us is that the Government, and the industry itself, give serious consideration to the long-term consequences for democracy caused by the alarming rundown of the national press in Manchester. If its decline is a portent of a new pattern of newspaper technology and distribution, it augurs ill for the reflecting of democratic processes at the grass roots.

Yours truly,
ALAN FITCH,
TOM NORMANTON,
CYRIL SMITH,
ALLEN OF FALLOWFIELD,
HAMNETT OF WARRINGTON
Chairman, Warrington New Town Corporation,
R. E. THOMAS, Leader
Greater Manchester County Council,
W. H. SEFTON, Chairman,
North West Economic Planning Council,
LEONARD BROUGTON, Chairman,
Lancashire County Council.
March 23.

Devolution for Wales

From Lord Merthyr

Sir, In her interesting letter on devolution for Wales (March 25) Miss Jan Morris is silent, as so many others have been, as to what proportion of the national debt of the United Kingdom should, on devolution, be taken over and serviced by Wales.

Yours faithfully,
MERTHYR,
Saundersfoot,
Dyfed,
March 26.

Darenth Valley motorway

From Mr Andrew Warren

Sir, Your correspondence upon the proposals for the section of the M25 due to be built between Sevenoaks and Swanley has tended to ignore the primary purpose of such an investment: to provide one part of an outer orbital motorway around the Greater London area.

This road, so long advocated, will when completed provide a satisfactory link between the many existing *radial routes running in and out of* the South-East—the M1 going north, the M4 to the West and Wales, the M3 to the South-West, the M2 and M20 to the South-East, the M11 to East Anglia.

It will give substantial relief to dozens of towns and villages whose residential and shopping streets are at present blighted by heavy through traffic. It will also provide a valuable missing link as part of the comprehensive nation-wide system of trunk roads long promised by Governments of both parties.

In urging the rapid completion of all the sections of this route, I would not attempt to minimize the many problems ahead for the planners in trying to integrate such a motorway into the countryside. But skilful landscaping has been achieved by motorway builders many times in the past—the M6 passing through the Lune Gorge in Westmorland, to name but one example. I am convinced that given cooperation, goodwill and above all realism, its construction will be seen to be—indeed will be—of considerable benefit to us all.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW WARREN,
Secretary, Movement for London,
26 Manchester Square, W1.
March 29.

Maintaining standards in education

From Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Conservative MP for Chelmsford

Sir, I very much commend the courage and realism of Dr Thwaite's letter in your columns on March 26 about the serious problems universities face in monitoring academic standards among students who are not attaining basic skills in schools.

I have long been worried by the fact that we have been spending an ever increasing amount on education without necessarily obtaining a commensurate increase in educational standards in our schools. This has led me to look at the problem from the start of the educational process, namely from the primary schools.

At the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool in October, 1975, I drew attention to this and called for the reintroduction of national standards for literacy and numeracy so that every child entering secondary school knows how to read easily, write legibly, spell correctly, add up and to express himself or herself in good clear English.

I have called for a process of continuous assessment in our schools so that pupils in need of remedial teaching are recognized at an early stage and their difficulties rectified with a minimum of dislocation in their school careers. I very much hope that the assessment of performance unit set up within the Department of Education and Science will concern itself with the monitoring and improvement of standards of education in our schools. New methods of teaching should not be introduced until they have been thoroughly evaluated by controlled experiments conducted by university departments. There should also be more emphasis in teacher training courses on how to maintain discipline.

I entirely agree with the point Dr Thwaites makes about priorities in education. The danger of introducing egalitarian principles into education when we are in fact dealing with children whose abilities and aptitudes vary considerably, is that insufficient account will be taken of the educational needs of more able children.

We can see the danger of following this principle in a number of fields. There is the obvious one of insisting that all secondary schools should be comprehensive. Perhaps even more serious because it is more insidious is the eroding of the examination system. As the late Lord Crowther said, examinations provide a means "of showing pupils where they stand, of providing them with an incentive to continue, and of raising habits of work and standards of attainment".

In this connexion we should all take note of the decline in standards the University Grants Committee in their annual survey for the academic year 1974-75 pinpointed at university entrance level in science and technology and in languages and in other Arts subjects. It is precisely for this reason that I would require a good deal more evidence that it would be right to introduce a common examination at 16-plus.

My main fear is that because such an examination would have to cover such a wide range of ability, it would either not provide a real test of ability in the case of the academic child or, alternatively it would contain many questions which the less able child would be unable to attempt.

What we have to decide is how we can get the right balance between numbers and quality in universities. We have already had to dilute staff:student ratios. Many of our problems today are caused by largeness: the largeness of the concern we work for; the large comprehensive school, and so on. We must be wary of allowing our universities to travel the same path. They are dealing with young people at an impressionable age, and there has never been a time when personal contact between staff and students is more badly needed.

Yet there is a problem. We face a period of financial stringency. If we restrict numbers, what do we do about those who are disappointed? Can we perhaps make more use of broadcasting for this purpose? Not ideal perhaps, but I am sure students would respond if they realize that this would make it possible for more of their contemporaries to receive higher education.

Is there not scope for more sharing of staff and facilities between universities and polytechnics? Perhaps we might even see a change of attitude by the CNAA to the degree of the Independent University which would contribute to university life without costing the taxpayer a penny.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN ST JOHN-STEVAS,
House of Commons.

Latin Vespers in the Abbey

From Father Francis McCarthy

Sir, The letter from the Very Rev P. Morgan (March 29) on Latin Vespers in Westminster Abbey surprised us by its vehement tone and ungracious attitude towards the Dean and Chapter. We are sure we are speaking for the great majority of our brother priests in welcoming the Dean's kind invitation to Archbishop Hume and his monastic brethren and the Archbishop's own emphatic statement that the ancient quarrel between Rome and Canterbury was now "dead and buried".

Lest it be thought that Father Morgan represents any widely held opinion on the part of Catholics in this country we should like to point out that he was, in fact, ordained in Econne seminary, an institute recently disowned by Paul VI because of its persistent refusal to accept the reforms of the Second Vatican Council.

We remain,
Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS McCARTHY,
MARTIN FLEISCHMANN,
BRENDAN SULLIVAN,
PETER J. DIRVEN,
JOHN TAYLOR,
LUDWIG JESTER,
FRANCIS GROOT,
W. HALLAM,
LOUIS DUGGAN,
St Joseph's College,
Mill Hill, NW7.
March 29.

From the Rev D. N. Samuel

Sir, Father Peter Morgan's letter (March 29) raises an important question for both Roman Catholics and Protestants. The façade of unity created by the actions of ecumenical churchmen does tend to waive the question of truth, and suggest that one religion is as good as another. Indeed, the question: Which is true, Roman Catholicism or the religion of Protestants? is regarded by many of them as no longer meaningful. When this happens it must result in real loss to the cause of religion in general, for it can only lead, in the end, to indifference both among the faithful and those outside the churches. If religion is not about truth then it is about nothing.

It has been necessary for Solzhenitsyn to warn us of the danger of banishing morality from politics. There are those of us who consider, that in the present climate of church politics, there is a parallel danger of truth being banished from religion. In this event neither Protestants nor Catholics would gain anything at all.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID N. SAMUEL,
Acting General Secretary,
Protestant Reformation Society,
East Ravendale Rectory,
Grimsby,
South Humberside,
March 29.

From the Rev D. G. Richards

Sir, It is because of the attitude of such people as the Superior of St Michael's House, Highclere, that so many Anglicans rejoice in the appointment of Dom Basil Hume to Westminster, and pray for him.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. RICHARDS,
The Parish of Llangeinor,
The Vicarage,
Ogmore Vale,
Near Bridgend,
Glamorgan,
March 29.

Corporatism in Britain

Mr Nevil Johnson

Sir, The attempt by Messrs. Pahl and Winckler (March 26) to delineate corporatism is to be welcomed, but there do seem to be important gaps in their account of this matter.

First, they claim to be describing corporatism as a new economic system distinguishable from corporatism as a totalitarian political system. Yet though they discern certain principles in this emergent corporatism, they say little about the terms on which the new economy will work, ie what allocative methods will be used. We are not told whether productive resources will be allocated according to criteria of profitability (unless "success" is to be equated with profitability) nor about the extent to which a market would survive in which consumers' preferences would help to determine prices.

Without some degree of market determination of prices, the corporatist economy has no allocative mechanism providing criteria for judging whether resources are being used efficiently for the satisfaction of a wide range of competing demands. This is a familiar problem in state-controlled economies where allocation becomes essentially a matter for political decision, and as a result there are substantial restrictions placed on the ability of the consumer to satisfy his preferences and, usually, to choose his job.

There is certainly plenty of evidence in Britain of a drift towards suspension of the market pricing mechanism as the main allocative principle governing the use of resources. But equally this principle has not yet been thrown overboard, and indeed even the Government's rhetoric about the regeneration of industry appears to assume the retention of a market, for if not, what sense is there in talking of investment in successful profit-making firms? In short, what I am suggesting is that the description of the corporatist economy needs to be qualified more carefully by reference to market pricing as it still operates and to its role (if any) in the future.

The other feature of the article which is puzzling is that it defined corporatism in terms which seem far removed from actual political conditions in Britain. Those grand principles—unity, order, nationalism and success—are but faintly reflected in behaviour within the economy and in current political argument. How and by whom are these values to be imposed and maintained? Surely Pahl and Winckler seriously underestimate the extent to which political conditions make it wildly unlikely that the kind of economy they foresee could in fact operate "successfully"?

Here we come back to a crucial link between a market economy and a liberal political regime. If corporatism requires the supersession of market pricing, then allocation must take place by political fiat and some kind of command economy has to appear. But that is incompatible with democratic politics as we understand it, and indeed a lot of "bargaining" goes out of the window too.

I still doubt whether the majority of people in Britain are yet willing to accept this. But there is an acute danger that most of them are failing to see that the maintenance of a competitive market system is a necessary condition both of effective wealth creation and of political freedom. Messrs Pahl and Winckler claim to be setting out the logic of corporatism: I would urge them to take the exploration of both its political and economic logic further.

Yours faithfully,
NEVIL JOHNSON,
Nuffield College,
Oxford,
March 29.

Council houses as second homes

From Mr John Underwood

Sir, In country parishes, where building land is rightly limited under planning rules, it is essential that council dwellings should be retained under local authority tenancies, and the government's plan to abolish "tied" farm cottages makes this of even greater importance.

If council houses are sold in such places they will inevitably, in the end, find their way into the hands of week-enders, second home owners and retired townspeople, as is already happening to so many privately owned village houses, leaving the local people with no alternative but to move away, usually to jobs in towns.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
JOHN UNDERWOOD,
Kilmington House, near Warminster,
Wiltshire.
March 29.

Malory manuscript

From Mr J. M. G. Blakiston

Sir, For the historical record it must be proclaimed without further delay that, under grave limitations of opportunity, there has been strong and knowledgeable opposition, both within Winchester and without, to the deplorable decision of the College to sell the Malory MS to the British Library.

The deal is now completed, but its critics here are nonetheless resolved both to investigate the manner of its negotiation and to canvass a wide range of significant but hitherto unconsulted opinion; thereby enabling posterity at least to see matters in their true light.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. G. BLAKISTON,
Former Fellows' Librarian at Winchester College,
Flaxen Hill,
Springvale Road,
King's Worthy,
Winchester.
March 25.

Battle of Hastings site

From Mr Edward Beaumont

Sir, Your correspondent Mr R. V. Ashdown's letter (March 27) causes my Norman blood to become slightly heated. It was not *We* who were defeated at Hastings: on the contrary, *We* are in part the result of that Conquest. This makes the site at Battle a most important one.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD BEAUMONT,
15 Grosvenor Road, Donnington,
Chichester,
Sussex,
March 29.

Emigration of doctors

From Dr G. E. Crawford

Sir, By the close of 1976 three new factors will have considerable effect on the future of the National Health Service. The United Kingdom and the EEC have agreed to free movement of doctors. Language difficulties may be a problem for some clinicians but in the specialities of pathology, radiology and anaesthetics, this will be of minor importance. As one colleague has already remarked, the "bacteria don't speak Dutch". There is no need to emphasize the effect of the loss of such medical manpower.

Agreement has been reached on the mutual recognition of medical degrees and "formal qualifications of specialized medicine". Young men and women will be recognized, appointed and paid as specialists, in roughly half the time taken for qualification in the United Kingdom. Many of their generation are multilingual and more European in their outlook than their teachers. Associated with the independent review revealing that United Kingdom doctors are the lowest paid in the Community, emigration to Europe will thus become an attractive alternative to NHS practice.

Twenty years ago, when the government and the medical profession were in conflict, we lost young men and women at the rate of 600 annually. The NHS has never recovered from such loss of its "seed corn", depending now upon overseas doctors to keep the service creaking along. Government must realize that for the first time since 1948 it is no longer a monopoly employer. Unable to compete with the rest of the Nine in respect of remuneration, is it prudent to embark on legislation which will alienate the profession?

At present, with many unfilled consultant posts, and general practitioners with little previous experience being appointed to succeed in practice vacancies, a loss through emigration on the 1950s scale will be disastrous. Time is short. Restoration of confidence by the profession, in government, is a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully,
G. E. CRAWFORD,
10 Hampstead Road,
Liverpool.
March 24.

Footing the wedding bill

From Mr Terence Allan

Sir, In the days when a girl didn't go out to work, and stayed at home until an acceptable suitor could be found, her marriage was a financial as well as a social achievement for her parents—and it was the measure of a father's relief that he stumped up for the wedding.

But nowadays, when equal pay and opportunity give a girl financial independence, and changing social patterns mean that parents have little or no influence on her choice of husband, it is surely something of an anachronism that the bride's parents should still foot the bill.

As the father of three daughters of marriageable age, I admit to bias —and I do not doubt that my counterpart, with sons, would defend the practice to the pop of the last champagne cork!

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE ALLAN,
Rother Hill,
Stedham,
Midhurst,
Sussex,
March 29.

Time to stop letting the motor car rule all our lives

Pamela Johnson, a member of the National Transport Working Party of the Conservation Society and of Transport 2000, contributes this week's guest column.

The Department of the Environment recently sponsored a study, admired in *The Times* by Mr Gabriel Roth, which recommends the conversion of much of the rail network to roads. However, this study is not based on a comprehensive comparison of different modes, but starts from the simple assumption that railways lose money and roads yield a return on capital. If railways are replaced with roads, so the theory goes, we shall have a profitable transport system.

A critical analysis of this concept is the subject of a paper to be issued by my working party next month. Here I can only sum up the problems of this particular conversion concept from rail to road as costly and unworkable. Furthermore, this old chestnut of a solution to our transport problems is really no more than another proposal for routes for new trunk roads. It follows that the problems of the conversion concept are almost identical with those of any road-based transport system.

On the basis of the assessment of the problems of existing road policies a number of groups in this country have long been pressing for reforms. However, apart from a few important but local achievements, official thinking in the Environment Department is unchanged. This would be acceptable if our case had been proved wrong. But it has not. Instead, more people and facts support it.

What are the major points which official transport policy makers refuse to face? One is that there is no integrated transport policy, for either passengers or freight. Another is that the transport planning that does exist conflicts with other official policies of equal importance.

It is government energy policy to "Save It". But road policies commit the country to the most energy-wasteful forms of transport.

Countless official documents say that transport should be provided as a social service. Official policy does not actually intend to deprive people of a way of getting about, but the road programme effectively does just that. New roads and car parks encourage car use: that discourages public transport, bus and rail, which leads to its decline, which forces more people to find alternatives.

By perpetuating the road programme, government policy actually sanctions an undeclared civil war on the roads in which about 20 people die each day, and 1,000 are hurt, more than a fifth seriously.

Government land-use policies distinguish town from country, call for greater home food production, and try to preserve areas of outstanding natural beauty. But policies catering for cars and lorries entail the use of an enormous amount of land, usually blurring the distinction between town and country, using land which grows food and which has been designated an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The economic and traffic aspects of road planning have also been challenged. Official forecasts of future car ownership—one car per 45 people—on which the road programme is finally justified, have been shown to be nothing but forecasters' guesses, based on questionable statistics.

If, however, their forecasts were right, and the inter-urban road programme completed, this vast number of cars and lorries could not fit into towns and cities where the network would end. Some could, but we cite worldwide experience as evidence that traffic levels rise to fill the space provided, thus re-creating the congestion.

We have stated in papers and at inquiries that systems composed of main lines and branches—roads, telephones, sewers or train networks—must accept "losses" on their branches. They carry low levels of traffic but are essential to feed the main arteries.

All these factors could be compared with regard to the different transport modes if one cost accounting system were in use; at present different official accounting systems are applied to the different modes. Quantifiable or not, such "equations" would include evaluations of social and environmental costs.

Each year the British Railways Board looks like a money-loser, not primarily because it could be more efficient, but because there is no roadways board to add up all the costs attributable to the road programme, to cost, for example, feeder roads in the same way that branch lines are costed. We can show that road users are more heavily subsidized than rail users. Using one accounting system might well lead to proposals for converting roads into railways.

The essence of our case is that the purposes which new roads are supposed to serve could be achieved by using existing rail and waterway capacity more fully, along with existing roads, in an integrated fashion. There is no need to ban the car to achieve this; only to restrict its use in certain places and not allow its present use-level to increase elsewhere.

Since the 1950s and 60s, when the road programme was devised, there has been a transformation of the world energy food commodity situation. There has also been growing awareness of the discrimination, inherent in present road policies, against the majority by the minority of those with access to a car. Why then has there been no change in transport priorities?

That official policy is not responding to reality can only be understood by reference to this country's massive road lobby. They have established a special position of influence within the Environment Department.

If power politics explains why the car industry instead of an integrated transport system will be subsidized, then there is a need for the decision-making process to become more open and more democratic.

Overworked MPs simply cannot compete with the Environment Department in making and controlling transport policy. The last full scale debate in Parliament on the road programme was in 1967. When select committees or individual MPs have tried to bring about change (as over energy conservation in transport and the right of objectors to question the need for a road at inquiries), they have been ignored or thwarted by the Environment Department.

We should have national public hearings on the discussion document or green paper on transport policy which the DoE is about to issue. This would subject decision-makers to cross-examination on the processes they use. Considering the importance of the issues to the lives and pockets of every man and woman, they ought to be televised. Such a forum would enable all lobbies to put their case to help Parliament to direct and control transport policy.

As an American, I have seen what damage excessive use of the car does to both the subtle and the more obvious aspects of the quality of life. In the USA large sums are now being spent to revive the railways and improve local bus services. As a long time Anglophile (living here), I am depressed that Big Brother, the Environment Department, has been able to avoid responding to Parliament and continues to ignore what seem to be unanswerable arguments.

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Should a doctor tell the truth when a patient has cancer?

Prevarication, euphemisms, and sometimes flat lies are entrenched traditions in doctors' attitudes to their patients with cancer—at least in Britain. My own least welcome task as a young house-surgeon was talking to the wives of men who had just had operations for carcinoma of the lung. The consultants for whom I worked did not believe in letting patients know they had cancer, but someone had to be told what had been done and why.

Having explained to the wife that the outlook was serious and to the husband that his operation had been a success, often we left couples to face the few months left to them with an enormous barrier of deceit between them. That was some years ago, but attitudes have remained largely unchanged; many doctors still believe that their patients should never be told that they have cancer.

There may be a case for reticence when a doctor knows his patient is dying; sometimes the maintenance of a fiction of hope is essential for morale—though experience in hospitals specialising in the care of the dying suggests that most people find the removal of the tradional web of deception a great relief. But doctors' reluctance to discuss impending death with patients cannot in any way justify their taking a similar attitude to a diagnosis of cancer.

Cancer is not synonymous with death: indeed many of the common cancers—those of the breast, bowel, and uterus—have cure rates of 50 per cent or better when treatment is given early in the course of the disease. Nor is it the most common cause of death in Britain. Both coronary thrombosis and stroke kill more people each year. Yet there is far less aura of fear and secrecy attached to heart disease; doctors and patients can and do have practical discussions about the prevention of further attacks and the prospects for long survival.

The malignant reputation of cancer is enhanced by the secrecy surrounding it. The thousands of patients cured by early operation each year often have no idea that the "ulcer" or the "patch of infection" that the surgeon removed was in fact cancer. Moreover the term cancer covers a whole spectrum of disease. Cancer need not cause pain—indeed in its early stages it is characteristically painless; it may develop very slowly, and many old people die with their cancers rather than from them. No doubt it was reasonable to equate cancer with death at the beginning of this century, when the diagnosis was rarely made until the condition was too far advanced for surgical cure to be possible. Nowadays, with greater public awareness of the nature of the disease and earlier and better treatment, such an attitude is long outdated.

Fortunately, the whole medical approach to cancer is undergoing a radical change. Patients and their relatives are less willing to accept medical advice uncritically. A woman with a breast cancer is nowadays likely to be aware that different surgeons may have widely varying approaches to treatment, some favouring major surgery while others recommend simple removal of the tumour, and may reasonably expect to be allowed to discuss these possibilities with her doctor.

Furthermore, the increasing complexity of modern cancer therapy makes it essential that the patient is taken fully into the confidence of the team planning his treatment: this may, for instance, include a course of radiotherapy and two years or more of drugs, some of which may have unpleasant side-effects. Such a programme should not be imposed upon a patient without his or her full knowledge of its implications and any likely complications.

Is it so unreasonable to say to a woman, "You have a 50 per cent chance of being cured by the removal of your breast", and if she later proves to be one of the unlucky ones, to tell her that with drug treatment and further surgery she can expect between two and five years of reasonable health? After the first operation any surgeon can tell his patient whether the chances of a cure are 10 per cent, evens, or 90 per cent; and if the disease is beyond cure he can explain that treatment will have to be defensive. Certainly it is rarely possible to make a really accurate estimate of the likely length of survival; but no one expects that.

Once the patient has been taken into the doctor's confidence, the two of them can periodically review the progress of the disease and its response to treatment. Already this sort of open discussion is commonplace in north America, and the same standards seem to be expected by prominent figures in our own society—entertainers, athletes, and politicians. More talk about cancer would help to demythologize it, remove much of the fear and shame still associated with it, and perhaps help to encourage more people to seek medical advice early—still the cornerstone of successful treatment.

Dr Tony Smith

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COURT CIRCULAR

VINDSOR CASTLE
March 30: By command of The Queen, the Lord Winterbottom (Lord in Waiting) this afternoon called upon the Governor-General of Trinidad and Tobago and Lady Clarke at the residence of the High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 30: The Hon Mrs John Mulholland has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fermoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 30: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, today visited the premises of the *Express and Star* at Wolverhampton and West Bromwich.
Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by the Hon Davina Woodhouse and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 30: *The Duke of Gloucester*, Liveryman, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester was entertained to Dinner by the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Masons at the Mansion House.
Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland and Miss Jennifer Thomson were in attendance.
The Duchess of Gloucester opened the St Bartholomew's School of Nursing and the New Residential Accommodation in the Gloucester House Extension.
Miss Jennifer Thomson was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 30: Princess Alexandra, as patron, this *afternoon visited the* National Heart Hospital on the occasion of the opening of the extension to the Children's Ward.
The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Chancellor of the Monarchist League, the Marquess of Bristol, announces that the Duke and Duchess of Anjou and Cadiz, Head of the House of Bourbon, will be present at the annual dinner of the league on April 7 at the Savoy Hotel.

A thanksgiving service for the life of Major-General Sir Colin Gubbins will be held in St Martin-in-the-Fields on Thursday, May 1976, at noon.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Major-General P. J. Ovens to be Commandant of the Joint Warfare Establishment from November 5, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal S. Hazelwood, who is to retire.
Mr Will Allan, aged 30, deputy editor of *The Connoisseur*, to be executive editor from April 1. Mr Denis Hillier, the editor, is to resign *in mid-June*.
Mr Patrick Thomas to be chairman of Scottish Opera from May, succeeding Professor Robin Orr.

University news

Warwick
Appointments
Dr R. J. Ellis, reader in department of biological sciences, to a personal professorship in biological sciences from October 1.
LECTURERS: J. E. H. Davidson, economic, from October 1; S. N. C. ... classical civilization, from August 1; I. M. May, civil engineering, from October 1; Mrs P. A. Singleton, classical civilization and literature, from August 1; Miss A. Stewart, law, from October 1.
SENIOR LECTURERS: N. J. Ireland, economics; Miss E. M. Hitchfield, education; Dr H. V. Shorrocr, engineering; Dr P. Wood, film studies; Dr J. M. Stavall, sociology (all from October 1).

York
Appointments
Research fellows: S. A. Boffey, BA, PhD (Cantab), department of biology, from Feb 1, 1976, to July 31, 1977; J. Irwin, BA (York), department of physics, from Oct 1, for three years.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. A. Hutchison and Miss P. J. Ashurst
The engagement is announced between Roger Ayton, son of Mr and Mrs D. C. Hutchison, of Cobham, Surrey, and Pamela Jean, daughter of Mr R. E. Ashurst, of Yeovil, Somerset, and Mrs C. N. Lucas, of Morcombelake, Dorset.

Mr R. J. M. Inman and Mlle F. de Nicolo
The engagement is announced between Richard John McMichael Inman, of Oxted, Surrey, and Mlle Francoise de Nicolo, of Longuyon, France.

Dr A. T. Klouda and Miss L. Iyengar
The marriage has been arranged and will take place on Saturday, April 3, between Anthony, son of Dr and Mrs A. Klouda, of 20 Fitzjames Avenue, London, W14, and Lekha, daughter of Mr S. A. Iyengar, of Hyderabad, India, and Mrs R. Killick, of 38A Manor View, London, N3.

Mr K. E. W. Macready and Miss J. A. Askew
The engagement is announced between Kevin Macready, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, only son of the late J. W. B. Macready and of Mrs D. M. Macready, of Furze Hills, Churt, Surrey, and of Jill, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. A. Askew, of Pinehill, Farnham, Surrey.

Mr C. N. Ouin and Miss M. L. Gifford
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs C. K. Ouin, of Fernhurst, Haslemere, Surrey, and Margaret, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Gifford, of Kingswood, Surrey.

Mr M. Pinfold and Miss J. E. Gates
The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of the late Mr L. A. Pinfold and of Mrs P. J. M. Pinfold, of Wallasey, and Janet, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P. D. Gates, of Heswall.

Mr P. J. Reynolds and Miss B. S. A. Hallett
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. L. Reynolds, of Shrewsbury, and Bridget, younger daughter of Captain and Mrs Nigel Hallett, of Malaga, Spain.

Mr C. Ruinard and Miss H. M. Surfleet
The engagement is announced between Cornelis, son of Mr Pieter Ruinard and the late Mrs H. Ruinard, of Eindhoven, The Netherlands, and Heather Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Surfleet, of Morcott, Rutland.

Mr G. W. Taunton-Collins and Miss P. J. Bray
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Major Geoffrey N. H. Taunton-Collins, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and the late Mrs Coleen G. Taunton-Collins, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald N. M. Bray, of Kensington, London.

Dr D. A. I. Verettas and Dr J. C. Dickins
The engagement is announced between Dionisis Alexandros Iannis, only son of Mr and Mrs Ioannis Verettas, of 24 M Alexandrou Street, N Smirni, Athens, Greece and Jacqueline Claire, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Graheme J. Dickins, of 48 Wendan Road, Newbury, Berkshire.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):
Bomford, Mrs Brenda, of Pimlico, London £152,142
Cartwright, Mrs Frances Elizabeth, of Beaminster, Dorset .. £196,225
Duckworth, Mr Clifford, of Chelford, Cheshire £154,140
Hurley, Mr George Edward Thomas, of Catford, London £231,090
Layton, Mr Ralph, of South Kensington, London, former member of council of the Stock Exchange £327,388
Milton, Sir Frank, of Crewkerne, Somerset, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate from 1967 until last July £46,900
Moore, Janet Mary, of Horning, Norfolk £212,496
White, Mr Albert Ernest, of Westminster, company director £228,016

Rare early German Old Master drawing fetches £29,700

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A charming watercolour of a squirrel eating a walnut, by Hans Hoffman, one of the rare early German drawings, was bid to £29,700 by German and Swiss competitors at Christie's yesterday.

The description, "whiskers, claws and spreading tail", is crisp and naturalistic; it is one of the most distinguished productions of the so-called Dürer renaissance and the link with the great Dürer animal drawings is clear. Hoffman worked for the Emperor Rudolf II in Prague. The purchaser chose to remain anonymous but came from Switzerland.

The sale of Old Master drawings, mainly sent from abroad, attracted strong competition and totalled £105,220, with 4 per cent unsold. Dutch drawings brought prices comparable to those reached recently in Holland: a set of four watercolour seascapes by Hendrik Kobell made £2,860 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000).

There was an interesting group of Salvator Rosa drawings, among which the top prices were £2,750 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) for a study of a robber and £1,430 (estimate £800 to £1,200) for a poet seated by a tree.

A second sale at Christie's contained the field marshal's baton presented to the third earl of Lucan in 1887. It was sold to

Hans Hoffman's study which went to a Swiss bidder.

Spink's at £5,500 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000). The third earl commanded the cavalry at the time of the Charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimean War, but interest in the lot was increased by the fact that it was being sold by the trustees in bankruptcy of the seventh earl, who is charged with murder and has disappeared.

Christie's sale of arms and armour in Rome on Monday made £34,236, with a fifth unsold. In a book sale yesterday the Italian National Library in Rome paid £2,280 for an autograph manuscript of D'Annunzio's verse tragedy, *La Fiaccola sotto il Moggio* (The light under the bushel). The price was just under Christie's estimate.

Sotheby's yesterday sold a collection of Worcester *porcelain* belonging to Mr Anthony Tuke, the chairman of Barclays Bank. The sale made £51,056, with 11 per cent unsold; the unsold lots were generally minor, but there were quite a few of them.

The top price of £3,050 (estimate £1,000 to £2,000) was paid by *Firminger for a rare pink scale* teapot stand decorated with a scene after Teniers, probably in James Giles's workshop.

Good claret prices: Phillips's sale of fine wines produced some good prices for claret, indicating that Bordeaux is pulling out of its slump of the past 18 months.

A remarkable price was £205 *for nine bottles of Château Latour* and Mouton Rothschild, 1945, (estimate £150 to £200). Château Cheval Blanc, 1966, was selling at £62 a dozen approximately as estimated, and the 1953 vintage reached £98 a dozen. Wine experts estimated that many Bordeaux prices were about a quarter down on this time last year.

High level of entry for tourism awards

By a Staff Reporter

An extremely high standard of entry marked the 1975 British Tourist Authority "Come to Britain" awards, which were presented in London yesterday by Sir Alexander Glen, the authority's chairman.

The authority's trophy was won by the National Railway Museum at York, which houses a comprehensive display of rolling stock and locomotives in a former steam-engine depot. In its first two months nearly 500,000 people visited the museum.

For the first time this year the authority gave awards to two other developments of outstanding merit. They were the Gladstone Pottery Museum at Longton, Staffordshire, and the Wedgwood Visitor Centre, at Barlaston, Staffordshire.

Certificates of special commendation went to:
Aviemore Highland Craft Centre and Santa Claus Land (Highland Tourist (Cairngorm Development) Ltd); Brympton d'Evercy, Brympton, Somerset (Mr and Mrs Charles Clive-Ponsonby-Fane); Corinium Museum, Cirencester (Cotswold District Council); Darlington North Road Station Museum (Darlington Borough Council); Timothy Hackworth Museum, Shildon, co Durham (Sedgefield District Council); Light up the Thames, London; London Dungeon (London Dungeon Ltd); Manor House Leisure Park, St Florence, Tenby, Dyfed (Manor House Leisure Park Ltd); National Gallery northern extension, London; Norton collection, Upton Warren, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire (Mr Dennis G. Norton); Norton Priory Museum, Runcorn, Cheshire (Runcorn Development Corporation); Royal Marines Museum, Southsea, Hampshire; St Mary's Heritage Centre, York (York City Council); Scottish Opera Theatre Royal, Glasgow (Scottish Opera Ltd); Vindolanda Museum, Chesterholm, Northumberland (Vindolanda Trust); Waverley paddle steamer, Clyde (Waverley Steam Navigation Co Ltd); Wheal Martyn Museum, St Austell, Cornwall (St Austell China Clay Museum Ltd); Wookey Hole Caves and mill, Somerset (Wookey Holes Caves Ltd).

Certificates of Commendation: Beaumaris Prison Museum (Gwynedd County Council); Brass Rubbing Centres (Brass Rubbing Centres Ltd); Chester Heritage Centre (Council of the City of Chester); Courage Shire Horse Centre, Maidenhead (Thicket, Berkshire (Courage (Central) Ltd)); Derby Playhouse (Derby Playhouse Ltd); Gibraltar Point Visitor Centre (Lincolnshire Trust for Nature Conservation); Heatherslaw Mill, Ford, Northumberland (Heatherslaw Mill Charitable Trust); Guitar Hotel Birthplace Museum (Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum Service, Cheltenham Borough Council); House of Pines, Bramber, Sussex (House of Pines Ltd); Jacobite Cruises in Scotland (Jacobite Cruises Ltd).

New Road to The Isles (P & O Ferries, North of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland Shipping Co Ltd); Peak Pathfinders and routes for people in the park (Peak Park Joint Planning Board); Prinknash Bird Park, Prinknash Abbey, Gloucestershire; Regional Craft Centre (Lincolnshire and Humberside Arts); Replica of George Stephenson's "Locomotion" ("Locomotion" Trust, Bramish Stanley, co Durham); Rose's Theatre, Tewkesbury (Tewkesbury Borough Council); Scottish Museum of Wool Textiles, Walkerburn, Peeblesshire (Scottish Museum of Wool Textiles Trust); Showroom and Courtyard at Royal Worcester factory (Worcester Royal Porcelain Co Ltd); Space Tower (Blackpool Pleasure Beach Company); Tourist Inns in Scotland (Mercury Motor Inns Ltd); Visitor Centre, Goed-y-Brenin, Gwynedd (Forestry Commission, North Wales Conservancy).

OBITUARY

MR GORDON EDWARDS

Former civil servant and gardening writer

Mr Gordon Edwards, CBE, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, from 1962 to 1964, has died at the age of 75. He had served in the Inland Revenue Department from 1920 to 1945, before going to the Ministry of National Insurance, later the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance. He was made a CBE in 1955. He married, in 1929, Marjorie Agnes, daughter of A. J. Hobson. They had one son.

Sir John Walley writes:
The announcement of Gordon Edwards's death by a tragic accident in the rose-surrounded home he made for himself in Cuckfield, will bring much sorrow to his many friends past and present, and the memory *of a man of remarkably varied* abilities and interests as well as a life of great achievement in three quite separate careers.

After service in the Royal Tank Corps in the 1914 War, he had risen to high rank in the Inland Revenue Inspectorate before, in 1945, he became one of the small group who launched our post-war social security schemes. His robust common-sense and administrative flair and courage were quickly shown in his 1946 rescue of the severely war-weakened pensions organization, marooned in Blackpool hotels, from a catastrophic breakdown which some thought was inescapable under the intense political pressures to which it was being subjected. In this second career, which ended with his 1964 retirement as an Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, he made many most valuable contributions to the work and thinking of that Ministry, especially in the pensions field.

But civil servants and their achievements are anonymous; it was in 1954, and almost by accident (he had previously been thinking of developing his considerable talents as a painter as a retirement interest) that he found his third career as a popular writer and broadcaster about his experiences as a gardener: especially about the roses he had come to love and for which he soon started to *create, with the advice of Dame* Sylvia Crowe and his many new friends among rose breeders, the remarkable "weekend" garden, containing more than 2,000 plants, which has given so much pleasure to the visitors he was always glad to welcome as well as to that much wider circle of friends created by his very popular book, *Roses for Enjoyment* first published in 1962, which has even had the distinction of a German translation. And, only last year, he added his challenging *Wild and Old Garden Roses* to which he had become more and more attracted as the answer to many rose-growers problems.

FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY

Lord Shinwell writes:
Your illuminating tribute to Field Marshal Montgomery portrays the quality of a remarkable man, but to my dismay and regret reveals several defects which, I must place on record, were not apparent to me during our association at the War Office, and later at the Ministry of Defence, when, to use his own language, *he became an international soldier.* If, as is alleged, he displayed arrogance, an attitude of superiority, was awkward, and according to General Auchinleck, was devoid of a sense of humour, he must have been labouring under considerable stress to conceal those defects in my presence. What happened on the battlefield or at Headquarters in arguments with Eisenhower or other military colleagues is for me just hearsay; I speak from experience when I had the utmost cooperation, advice and kindness from him when following the war. International tension, the Korean affair, the sniping from pacifist back-benchers, decisions of the Cabinet, or the Foreign Office, or even worse *the lack of decisions, threw up* many problems. If he was somewhat offensive to Albert Alexander, when Minister of Defence, it was because of frequent changes in policy about National Servicemen: I happen to have disliked the situation myself. My recollections of what became a close friendship are of the happiest. It was a wonderful experience to have known him.

MR H. S. MACKINTOSH

Alec Waugh *writes:*
Hugh Mackintosh who died on March 16 was the author of several volumes of light verse. He specialised in the ballade. To J. C. Squire's collection *A Hundred and One Ballades*, published in 1931, he *contributed fifteen. His* 'Il est cocu le chef du gare' (he has been duped—the station master) is a favourite with anthologists. Ballades tend to resemble one another, but his are different. He is very much himself in them, writing as he talked.

He was my oldest and my closest friend. Our respective parents lived in Hampstead. We attended services at St Jude's. We were contemporaries at Sherborne. We played rugby for Rosslyn Park and cricket for J. C. Squire's Invalids. We were members of the Savile and the Athenaeum. At Sherborne, S. P. B. Mais inspired in him a deep love of poetry and he was at his happiest swapping quotations with a fellow addict. In his 20s on Sundays he would take long country walks with two or three companions—J. B. Morton was often one of them—singing French marching songs, staving off his thirst at village pubs. As a young man he had glamour; with a look of Valentino he was an elegant dancer. He was very well dressed, he always had money in his purse—he travelled for Pinchin Johnson. He was a lavish host. His ballades are the expression of a many-sided personality.

He made, in 1925, a happy marriage with Winifred Agar, who in the 1930s wrote two well-reviewed novels and who survives him, with two daughters.

MR E. C. KERSLEY

M. A. E. writes:
Any appreciation of so rare a character as Puff Kersley, who has died in his eighty-eighth year, may be almost the last of its kind. For half a century he was a familiar and much loved figure in the markets, the auction rooms, the picture galleries, and the museums of London.

In the memorable clutter of his home in Maida Vale, cautiously avoiding the stacks of pictures, the beautiful chairs, the Bow cups and Bristol glass, his friends might descend a peeling staircase to the warm basement which was illumined by a coal fire, and Taglioni in *all versions*. A Chantry bust or two sat securely in the enchantingly unkempt garden beyond.

Born in Totteridge, Puff Kersley was sent to an orphanage at the age of three. In nearly Dickensian conditions, he was ill fed, ill treated, and educated. At nine, he embarked on a scarcely credible series of jobs. His graphic account of boiling esparto grass in a paper mill, which he described to Jonathan Miller in a BBC interview in 1963, is more like Doré.

Stimulated by the artistic talents of an old coach painter, he found that a ninepenny workman's ticket from Watford to Euston afforded him the heady freedom of the Victoria and Albert. But it was in the old Caledonian Market that he began to amass that enormous knowledge of pictures, antiquarian books, and the ballet, for which his friends in the art world have such cause to be grateful.

Many museums are indebted to his swift appraisal of their needs, and a generous awareness of their resources. Among the great private collectors, he enjoyed and valued most his long, productive friendship *with Sir Geoffrey Keynes.*

On reading the touching and graceful tribute to him by Sir Arthur Elton in the preface to the revised version of Klingender's *Art and the Industrial Revolution*, Puff Kersley, wordless for once, responded with a sketch of a small, rotund, *genial man, his large bald head* crowned with stars, and conspicuously enhanced by a halo. Perhaps this is how he will best be remembered by his friends, who fervently hope that he will dine at journey's end with Morris and with Blake.

MR JOHN COGLEY

Mr John Cogley, formerly religious news editor of *The New York Times*, has died at the age of 60. A prominent Roman Catholic journalist of his time, his writings interpreted one of the most turbulent periods in American religious history and established the principle that theological debate was susceptible to treatment as news by secular journals.

In 1967 he founded *The Center Magazine*, journal of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions and had recently completed an autobiography. His work for the Center, which he joined in 1955, included a study on blacklisting in the communications and film industries which provoked a national controversy in the United States, and brought its instigator before the House Committee on un-American Activities, where he refused to disclose the sources of his remarkably detailed information on the practice.

He ran unsuccessfully for Congress as a Democrat in 1954 and, in 1972, published a history of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

Miss Myfanwy Pryce, the novelist, has died at the age of 85. The daughter of Shadrach Pryce, *a former Dean of St* Asaph, she wrote a number of novels set on the canvas of life in country villages, which enjoyed a considerable vogue in the 1930s.

Lady Black, wife of Lord Black, *formerly chairman of* the Leyland Motor Corporation, died on March 18. She was Margaret Patricia, daughter of James Dallas, and she was married in 1916.

Lady Mackenzie, widow of Sir Clutha Mackenzie, died on March 28. She was Doris Agnes, *daughter of Harcourt Sawyer,* and she was married in 1919. Her husband died in 1966.

Lady Jenkins, wife of Sir Gilmour Jenkins, KCB, KBE, MC, died on March 23 at the age of 83. She was Evelyne Mary, daughter of C. H. Nash, and she was married in 1916.

Brigadier Gordon Lyne Blight, author of the *History of the Royal Berks* 1920-47, died on March 27.

Today's engagements

The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Margaret and the Duke and Duchess of Kent attend opening by Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester of exhibition commemorating life and service of the late Duke of Gloucester, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth, 6.15.
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits RAF Central Flying School, Little Rissington, Gloucestershire, 11.45.
Princess Margaret presides at the annual council meeting of NSPCC, Friends Meeting House, Euston Road, 2.
Exhibition of sculpture and drawings by Hubert Yencesse, 147 New Bond Street, 10-5.30 (final day).
Lent lunch hour service by Mr Norman St John-Stevas, MP, St James's, Piccadilly, 1.15-1.45.
Organ recital by Eric Pask, Westminster Abbey, 6.30-7.15.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Cockburn, 67; Viscount Furness, 47; Sir Jim Holland, 65; Mr D. J. Rees, 63; the Very Rev Dr G. T. H. Reid, 66; Canon Charles H. Smyth, 73; Miss Antonia White, 77.

Marriages

Mr H. Denman and Lady Frances Whiting
The marriage took place quietly on March 26 of Mr Harold Denman and Lady Frances Whiting.

The Rev O. D. Carter and the Hon Mrs Jennifer Lowther
The marriage took place in London on March 29, 1976, between the Rev Oswald Dickin Carter and the Hon Mrs Jennifer Lowther.

Mr N. C. Bingham and Miss C. V. Stuart Hunter
The marriage took place in the Grosvenor Chapel yesterday between Mr Nicholas Charles Bingham, eldest son of the Hon John and Mrs Bingham, of Hayes Farm, Peasmarsh, Rye, Sussex, and Miss Catherine Violet Stuart Hunter, elder daughter of the late Major Nigel Stuart Hunter and of Mrs Stuart Hunter, of 30 Stanhope Gardens, London, SW7. The Rev J. B. Gaskell and the Rev Donal Browne took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Roderick Stuart Hunter, wore a gown of cream grosgrain and a Honiton lace veil. She carried a bouquet of cream and yellow roses. Mr David Bingham was best man.

A reception was held at Dartmouth House, Mayfair.

Mr K. J. Mackinnon and Mrs E. Vaughan
The marriage took place on Monday, March 29, at Caxton Hall of Mr K. James Mackinnon, son of the late Kenneth W. M. Mackinnon, QC, and Mrs Mackinnon, of 56 Kingston House, London, SW7, and Mrs Elizabeth Vaughan, of 15 Malvern Court, London, SW7.

Mr A. M. Moffat and Miss L. A. Thomas
The marriage took place on Saturday in St Salvator's Chapel, University of St Andrews, of Mr Alistair M. Moffat, only son of Mr and Mrs John Moffat, of Kelso, and Miss Lindsay Anne Thomas, only daughter of Major and Mrs Malcolm Thomas, of 62a Princes Gate, London, SW7 and Glade, Dene Lane, Farnham, Surrey. Canon John Scott officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Sheila Cater. Mr Thomas Pow was best man. A reception was held at The Old Course Hotel.

Luncheons

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
The Hon John Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, was host yesterday at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens, in honour of Mr Hans Gustafsson, Minister for Local Government in Sweden. The Swedish Ambassador was among those present.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Mr S. Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, Department of Trade, was host yesterday at a luncheon at the Hyde Park hotel in honour of Admiral Mahmud Fahmi, Minister of Maritime Transport, and a group of senior representatives from the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Mr Arthur Bottomley, MP, deputy chairman, United Kingdom branch, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, was host at a luncheon given at the House of Commons yesterday by the executive committee of the branch in honour of Mr John Diefenbaker, QC, MP. Others present included:
The High Commissioner for Canada and the deputy High Commissioner, Viscount Amory, Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Earl Ferrers, Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, MP, Lord Garner, Mr B. Godman Irvine, MP, Lord Greenwood of Rossendale and Mr Peter Molloy.

Lunchtime Comment Club
Mr Jack Ashley, MP, was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Lunchtime Comment Club held *at the Connaught Rooms yesterday.* The chairman of the club, Mr W. F. Davis, presided.

Dinners

Masons' Company
The Duke of Gloucester, a liveryman of the company, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, *attended a ladies' dinner of the* Masons' Company at the Mansion House yesterday evening. The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, with the Sheriffs and their ladies, were also present. The Master, Mr Rupert Wood, presided and the other speakers were *Judge Michael Argyle*, QC, and the Upper Warden, Mr John Bentley.

Mrs P. Martin
The High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Martin gave a dinner last night at 12 Upper Brook Street in honour of Mr John Diefenbaker, QC, MP. The other guests were:
The Commonwealth Secretary-General and Lady Ramphal, Lord and Lady Home of the Hirsel, Sir Patrick and Lady Dean, Professor Sir Bernard and Lady Lovell, the Deputy High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Hardy, Mr Joel Aldred, Mr Yousuf Karsh, Mr and Mrs Charles Ritchie, the Agent-General for Ontario and Mrs Cornell, the Agent-General for Nova Scotia and Mrs Shaffner, the Agent-General for Saskatchewan and Mrs Boden, the Agent-General for Alberta and Mrs Pickering, the Agent-General for British Columbia and Mrs Strachan, Mr and Mrs P. S. Cooper and Mr and Mrs L. Green.

Saints and Sinners Club
The Saints and Sinners Club held their annual dinner at the Dorchester hotel last night. Mr Phil Bull was in the chair and the other speakers were Lord Redcliffe-Maud, Lord Justice Sebag Shaw, Sir Antony Part, Sir Trevor Evans and Mr Neil McElligott. Those present included:
The Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Lauderdale, the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, Viscount Chelsea, Lord Cecil Douglas, Lord Campbell of Croy, Lord Davies, Lord Fraser of Kilmorack, Lord Hirshfield, Lord Schon, Lord Thomas, the Hon Maxwell Aitken, the Hon Hugh Lawson, the Hon Robin Neville, Sir John Bates, Sir William Butlin, Sir John Charles, Sir Berkeley Gage, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliatt, Sir Gerald Glover, General Sir Reginald Hewetson, Sir Johann Keegan, Sir Bernard Ledwidge, Sir Emile Littler, Sir Desmond Plummer, Colonel Sir Eric St Johnston, Sir John Stratton, Sir Iain Stewart and Sir Peter Tennant.

Primrose League
*Lord Mowbray and Stourton, chan*cellor, presided at the annual dinner of the Primrose League, held at Butchers' Hall yesterday evening. The chief guest and speaker was Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone. Among those present were:
Lady Mowbray and Stourton, Lady Hailsham of St Marylebone, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Sir Peter and Lady Rawlinson, Mr John Stokes, MP, and Mrs Stokes and Mr Robert Cooke, MP, and Mrs Cooke.

Trade Policy Research Centre
Professor Friedrich von Hayek, the Nobel Prize economist, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Trade Policy Research Centre last night at the Waldorf Hotel. Mr Hugh Corbet, director of the centre, presided. Among those present were:
Lord Robbins, Sir Keith Joseph, MP, Sir Douglas Allen, Sir Bryan Hopkin, Sir Max Brown, Dr Harald B. Malmgren, Dr Jan Tumlir, Mr Sidney Golt, Mr T. M. Rybczynski, Mr Maurice Zinkin, Professor Asher Winegarten, Mr Terence Higgins, MP, Mr M. J. Cook, Professor G. R. Allen, Professor Gethyn Davies, Mr A. L. Pelly, Professor Peter Wiles, Professor Colin Robinson, Dr F. V. Meyer, Professor P. N. Mathur, Dr R. Radhakrishna, Mr James Ammerman, *Dr Carl Beigie, Dr Rolf* Bristenstein, Miss A. E. Mueller, Mr Tim Congdon, Mr A. H. Reynolds and Mr Melvyn Westlake.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 31, 1951

Segregation Act

From Our Own Correspondent
Cape Town, March 30.—A proclamation in a Government Gazette extraordinary brings the Group Areas Act into operation in the Cape, Natal and the Transvaal. This Act, which was the subject of bitter controversy in Parliament *last year, empowers the govern*ment to define separate areas for the occupation of different races.

Today's proclamation defers for two years the operation of the occupation clauses—which means, in effect, that inter-racial property transfers and the occupation of any property by members of various races are at present not affected in the Cape, but there will be in the Transvaal and Natal where any persons occupying property in an area set aside for members of another race must leave within one year unless the minister gives them a special permit to remain.

Lecture

Air League and Cavendish Medical Centre
Dr Charles Berry was guest of the Cavendish Medical Centre yesterday evening when he lectured to members of The Air League and other organizations at the Royal College of Physicians. His subject was Space Medicine, Earth Medicine and You.

Reception

Byron Society
The Byron Society held a soirée yesterday at the National Portrait Gallery, by permission of the trustees. Mr Richard Ormond, deputy keeper, spoke on The Romantics and Dr John Hayes, director, took the party round the gallery. Afterwards Mr Michael Goldthorpe gave a recital of Lord Byron's lyrics. Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs C. Abrahams-Curiel, the Countess of Birkenhead, Mrs Elma Dangerfield, Professor and Mrs Malcolm Kelsall, the Countess of Longford, Lady Mander, Mr and Mrs John Murray, Mr Michael Rees and Mr Ian Scott-Kilvert, joint chairman, and Lord Strabolgi, vice-president.

Memorial service

Dr R. E. Glover
A memorial service for Dr Ronald Everett Glover was held yesterday at St Pancras Old Church. The Rev Christopher Bedford officiated. Tributes were paid by the Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, University of London, Dr A. O. Betts, and Professor *Clifford* Formston, Emeritus Professor of Veterinary Surgery. Professor E. Cotchin, vice-principal of the college, read the lesson.

Science report

Viruses: Glandular fever

More evidence for the association of a particular kind of cancer with the virus that causes glandular fever is reported in a recent issue of *Nature*. The Epstein-Barr virus, which is found in cases of African *Burkitt's lymphoma (a tumour of* the lymph nodes), has now been found in tissue from Burkitt's lymphoma in American patients.

Burkitt's lymphoma is a very rare type of tumour which initially affects the lymphoid system. It is extremely rare in America and Europe but more common in children in Africa. There it is *consistently associated with the* Epstein-Barr viruses but the virus had not previously been found in the rare cases arising outside Africa. It gave rise to speculation that the so-called Burkitt's, lymphoma might be a different disease with similar symptoms.

But American and Swedish scientists have now been able to *examine material from* several non-African Burkitt's lymphoma patients and have found the Epstein-Barr virus after all, although not in every case.

If the virus is the direct cause of Burkitt's lymphoma, then the geographical distribution is an intriguing question. A clue to the answer may be observations that the age at which infection *with glandular fever is most likely* to occur is also rather different. One suggestion is that infection with the virus leading to overt glandular fever protects against the development of Burkitt's lymphoma. Another suggestion is that infection with malaria may somehow be a factor in the disease, since the area where *Burkitt's lymphoma is most* common in Africa coincides with that in which malaria is endemic.

It still seems possible that there are two types of Burkitt's lymphoma, one involving the virus, the other not.

By Nature-Times News Service. Source: *Nature*, 260 (March 25), 357; 1976.
© Nature-Times News Service, 1976.

RHS gold medal for modern camellias

By Our Horticultural Correspondent

There is plenty of colour in the Royal Horticultural Society's new hall at Westminster and a splendid array of horticultural machinery and other garden equipment.

A gold medal was awarded to Sir Giles Loder, Leonardslee, for an exhibit of modern camellia varieties, many very large flowered, which have been raised in the United States.

Rock garden plants come into their own in the spring, and there are lovely pans of *Pleione formosana* and its variety, 'Alba', the scented original *Cyclamen persicum*, and some interesting muscaris, along with other delightful alpines.

Unusual herbaceous plants include various green hellebores, variegated balm, and ajugas. There are grey-leaved plants, varieties of Azalea indica, ivies, enormous plants of coloured polyanthus, and in a group of greenhouse plants, strelitzias, *Ananas variegata*, calatheas and others.

In the middle of the hall is a group of popular daffodils, including the red-cupped 'Aranjuez', 'Peeping Tom' with a preposterously long golden trumpet, and 'Stadium' a lovely variety with a white perianth and a large flat, frilly pale yellow cup.

In a charming group of camellias there are the large red double 'Adolphe Audusson', shown in even better form than usual, the double white 'Betty Sheffield' and 'Water Lily', pink, among many more.

The following awards were made:
First class certificates: Strobylanthus (?) praecox, yellow flowers, and to Rhododendron 'Wayford', pale pink, both from the Crown Lands Commissioners, Windsor Great Park; Hepatica nobilis, blue, from W. E. Th. Ingwersen Ltd; Rhododendron 'Sengull', white, from Sir Giles Loder, Leonardslee.
Awards of merit: Chionodoxa siehei, blue and white, from W. E. Th. Ingwersen Ltd; Wisteria Franz Wichmann, 'Hamburen', white and rosy lavender; and W. Annemarie Wichmann 'Mexico', mahogany with a pale pink lip, both from Arthur Eile & Co, Hamburg, W Germany; Paphiopedilum Tangold 'Mont Millais', amber, yellow and white, from Ratcliffe Orchids Ltd; Narcissus 'Park Springs', white perianth, flat small corona edged yellow, from Mrs Abel Smith; and to Rhododendron ovarifolium, pale pink, from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Curiously, daffodils are flowering rather late this year, but there was a good entry for the daffodil competition. Leading prizewinners:
Open classes: Twelve varieties raised by the exhibitor, silver-gilt Simmonds medal: Mrs G. L. Richardson; six varieties, silver Simmonds medal: Rathowen Daffodils; three varieties, Simmonds medal: Mrs J. Abel Smith; six hybrid miniature daffodils, silver Simmonds medal: J. W. Blanchard, Blandford.

Open classes for miniature narcissi: Three species: J. W. Blanchard; three hybrids: Mrs H. A. Oxton, Colchester. A collection of 12 varieties, Devonshire trophy: Mrs J. L. Richardson. Amateurs' classes: Six varieties: J. W. Blanchard; six varieties, one stem of each: J. G. Body, Maidstone. Decorative class: Mrs A. W. Downey, Southfields; best bloom, Simmonds medal: R. A. Southon, Limpsfield Chart (variety Kimmeridge).

In the competition for magnolias and ornamental plants from the open, leading prizewinners were:
A magnolia in bloom, one vase: the Countess of Rosse and the National Trust, Nymans (M. salicifolia); a rhododendron, one vase: R. N. S. Clarke, Borde Hill (R. mollyanum KW 6261); a camellia, one vase: the Countess of Rosse and the National Trust (C. williamsii 'Bow Bells'); a flowering tree or shrub other than a camellia, magnolia or rhododendron, in bloom, one vase: The Countess of Rosse and the National Trust (Osmanthus delavayi latifolia).

The show is open again today from 10 am to 5 pm.

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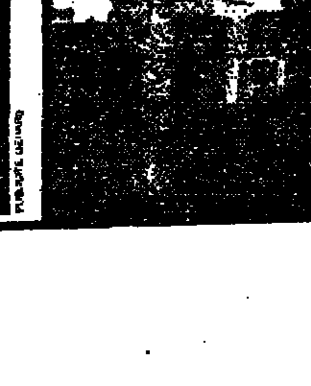

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THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 28.03.75 (Base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1935). —

	Index No.	Latest	Div. Yield %	Earns. Index Yield %	Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	166.82	6.61	10.19	7.56.91	
Largest Cos	162.37	5.86	10.37	165.74	
Smaller Cos	166.14	6.31	9.26	165.50	
Capital Goods	170.55	6.39	9.20	177.67	
Consumer Goods	142.79	6.84	10.64	142.62	
Share Share	179.49	6.75	7.35	179.60	
Largest financial shares	166.43	5.52	—	166.70	
Larger financial and industrial shares	169.35	5.79	—	169.73	
Commodity shares	206.96	6.72	11.59	206.92	
Gold Mining shares	211.13	6.72	14.35	214.56	
Industrial debenture stocks	80.16	7.66	—	80.27	
Industrial preference stocks	94.25	13.20	—	94.24	
3½% War Loan	29%	13.82	—	29%	

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below. —

	High	Low
All-time	244.47 (15.06.72)	49.38 (22.12.74)
1976	211.39 (30.01.76)	169.37 (05.01.76)
1975	234.93 (31.12.75)	93.43 (06.01.75)
1974	336.75 (28.05.74)	99.15 (27.12.74)
1973	388.33 (27.12.73)	258.89 (24.12.73)
1972	398.67 (15.06.72)	276.48 (10.01.72)
1971	291.74 (31.12.71)	192.52 (02.03.71)

* Plus interest yield.

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Concorde : the cost of avoiding a stall, page 21

Sir Derek Ezra is reappointed NCB chairman for 3-year term

By Edward Townsend

Sir Derek Ezra is to be reappointed as chairman of the National Coal Board. Sir Derek, who is 57, will hold the post for another three years and then retire.

The reappointment was announced by Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, and will apply from July 3.

Sir Derek will then be on a three-year instead of a five-year contract and will be 60 when it again comes up for renewal. In 1974, Sir William Ryland, chairman of the Post Office Corporation was reappointed for a three-year term.

Against the background of considerable upheaval among the leaders of the country's nationalized industries, Sir Derek has held his job by "mutual agreement". The resignation of Sir Richard Marsh from British Rail and the dismissal of Sir Monty Finniston from British Steel led to inevitable speculation.

Sir Derek, who was knighted in 1974, has been a member of the NCB since 1965 and was deputy chairman from 1967 to 1971. As chairman he receives a salary of £23,100.

The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday welcomed his reappointment and a spokesman added: "We have the highest regard for Sir Derek." Speaking yesterday on the BBC radio programme *World at One*, Sir Derek said he knew of no reason for speculation about his future.

"I have naturally had discussions with ministers and senior civil servants about this since the speculation started, and I found nothing arising from these discussions which suggested there was any foundation behind it."

The three-year term had been agreed because at the age of 60 it would be the right time for him to make way for someone else. Since 1947 the coal industry had suffered from a good deal of government interference, but during the past two years the situation had been much better, he added.

The appointments of four other senior full-time members of the board whose ages range from 58 to 65 all expire within the coming months. The present term of Mr D. M. Clement, aged 65, finance director, expires on Saturday; Mr L. Grainger, scientific director, who is 58, is due to renew his contract by May 31; Mr W. L. Miron, aged 63, the regional director, sees his appointment expire on July 4; and that of Mr G. C. Shephard, aged 61, industrial relations director, ends on December 31.

In response to a Commons question, Mr Benn has published the text of a letter sent to mining unions in which he sought the "advice" of officials regarding future appointments.

The letter, sent on March 10 to the National Union of Mineworkers, the National Association of Colliery Overmen Deputies and Shotfirers and the British Association of Colliery Management, included a list of future vacancies, including those of Sir Derek and other top managers, and asked for officials to recommend "suitable persons" from either the unions or existing management.

Lord Aldington to step down as chairman of Grindlay's Bank

By Christopher Wilkins
Banking Correspondent

Lord Aldington, chairman of Grindlays Bank, revealed yesterday that he is to leave the bank at the end of this year.

His announcement came with news of a second year of heavy losses by the bank, mainly because of persisting problems at its troubled merchant banking subsidiary, Brandts.

Before tax, the 1975 loss was £7.64m compared to £6.64m the year before, but after a much higher tax charge, relating chiefly to profitable overseas business, the net loss for the year was £20.1m. This was more than double the previous year's figure of £9.99m.

Lord Aldington, who is 61 and has been chairman of Grindlays since 1964, explained yesterday that earlier denials of his resignation had related to reports that he planned to step down at the annual meeting. In fact he is to stay on until December, when he will be replaced by Mr Nigel Robson, presently the deputy chairman.

These reports followed suggestions that he had visited New York to discuss his resignation with First National City Bank, which last year enlarged its shareholding in Grindlays from 40 to 49 per cent.

He stated then that he had been to New York to attend a routine board meeting of the American bank, of which he is a director. He emphasized yesterday that he had come under no pressure to resign, either by Citibank or Lloyds Bank, which holds 41 per cent of Grindlays Holdings.

In a statement to shareholders, he said: "The time

Lord Aldington: Time for a different approach.

seemed to me to be near when something other than my particular experience and my age would best help the bank and all those who work for it: a different approach might help more. I did not wish to be guilty of hanging on or to run away from difficulties untackled."

His pending departure from the bank marks the completion of a phase of radical change for Grindlays. Traditionally strong in the old imperial territories of the Far East and Africa, it acquired a two-thirds stake in Brandts in 1965, finally buying out the minority in 1972.

Subsequent attempts by Brandts to expand took it into heavy property lending commitments, which in turn have led to the alarming losses of the past two years and the much increased influence of Citibank.

The 1974 losses, compounded by the evidence that 1975 was going to see a further big deficit, prompted the bank to an urgent search for new capital. The search culminated in Citibank injecting £5m in return for an increased equity stake and a more active managerial role. Grindlays also raised £27m of loan capital, which is believed to have been largely taken up by Lloyds.

The latest figures from Grindlays reveal that it has been necessary to provide £24m against bad debts by Brandts during the past two years, predominantly against the property portfolio, originally £90m but now reduced to £75m.

The other London-based operations have also faced difficulties, and overall the United Kingdom operations lost £16m during 1975, before making transfers to general provision. But the overseas operations have been performing strongly, increasing their pre-tax profits by £6m and producing a net profit of £7.3m.

For the present year, Lord Aldington says that management is working to a plan which should lead to a further increase in overseas earnings, to a reasonable corporate and international banking profit and to an overall profit from the rest of the London business.

He says: "Unless there is some quite unexpected turn of events which damages some part of our business, 1976 should see the start of a resurgence in the profits of the group worthy of our management."

Financial Editor, page 21

Huge TriStar losses threat to Lockheed despite overall profits

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 30

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation today announced increased earnings for 1975, but its statement noted vast losses on the Rolls-Royce engined TriStar jet programme.

Further, the company gave a warning of even greater losses on the TriStar for 1976, and stressed that its independent accountants would issue a qualifying opinion on its financial results.

The report is bound to give rise to further speculation about Lockheed's ability to reduce its huge volume of outstanding debts and avoid bankruptcy. The company is one of America's biggest industrial concerns and the largest defence equipment contractor, with sales last year to the United States Government totalling $2,210m (about £1,105m).

Lockheed's chances of survival hinge critically on its ability to restructure its debts and here it must win the confidence of its bankers. Today's report announces increased net earnings of between $22.1m and $45.3m, but the disclosures of vast losses in future years on TriStar must unsettle some creditors.

The company's recent disclosures of bribes and questionable payments to foreign government officials and politicians are already producing major problems as it strives to restructure its debts. The report admits that these revelations are adding to its problem of forecasting future financial results.

It says that estimates of when the TriStar may become profitable "have become subject to greater uncertainty because of factors affecting the airline industry generally, as well as recent disclosures of commissions and other payments."

Lockheed stated that its pre-tax programme profits last year rose by $20m to $147m, but that it took a loss of $12m on two ships it built and, most importantly, it had to record pre-tax losses of $93.8m on TriStar.

Because of increased uncertainties about TriStar, Lockheed is changing its accounting method for the programme. The old method was computed on the basis of 300 sales within a few years. Under the new system the company would amortize TriStar costs to earnings to the end of 1985, so long as studies continued to indicate that the costs were recoverable.

The company amortized $12.5m of such costs in the final quarter of last year and there remains a balance of $502.5m to be authorized in equal annual amounts.

Lockheed said: "TriStar operating loss for 1976 is expected to exceed that for 1975." It added that an accounting change had increased the TriStar operating loss last year by $10.2m.

Further, the TriStar programme losses last year included $49.1m of general and administrative expenses, $4.9m of research costs, $12.5m for potential losses on aircraft that must be resold and $17.1m of standby production costs arising from reduced output levels.

The company obtained no firm orders for the TriStar last year and the programme is now a major source of concern. It remains hopeful, however, especially because so far it has managed to restructure some of its debt to produce substantial savings in interest payments. These payments, totalling $68m in 1975, remain a big drag on the company's profitability.

Inquiry into £2.9m Ulster aid to failed industrialist

Mr Ewart Bell, Permanent Secretary of the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce, is to be summoned to appear before the Comptroller and Auditor-General to explain why his department backed a bankrupt Norwegian industrialist at a cost of about £2.9m to public funds.

The venture, aimed at bringing the manufacture of electronic cash registers to Londonderry, collapsed last night when a receiver was called into Regna International.

Regna was established by Mr Jorgen S. Lien in October, 1971, shortly after his operation in Bergen collapsed with debts of more than £1m, throwing more than 600 Norwegians out of work.

Despite the crash, the Stormont Department of Commerce continued negotiations and provided Mr Lien with capital of £1.6m. In addition, a specially-built factory on Londonderry's Springtown estate, and training schemes, were provided with public funds.

But the device which Stormont officials believed was the prototype of an electronic cash register was, in fact, merely an electro-mechanical machine. These were made obsolete by fully electronic registers, coming mainly from Japan.

In 1973 the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation moved in and took over Regna for only £170,000 after a boardroom coup in which Mr Lien was locked out by his executives. Fewer than one in 10 of the 400 cash registers in stock when the NIFC took over was found to work.

Efforts to merge the company with the Hampshire firm Rapid Data Systems foundered when Mr Ossie Boxall, Rapid Data's managing director, was held at gunpoint in a Provisional IRA raid during a visit to the Regna factory.

Without sufficient general engineering subcontract work to keep the company alive the NIFC has now decided on liquidation, and yesterday called for a receiver. Instead of the 450 jobs the venture was originally designed to create, only about 100 workers remain to be paid off.

Eire to get 80 pc share in oil finds

Dublin, March 30.—Eire's Government has won agreement from eight groups of international oil companies for an 80 per cent Irish state share in any commercial offshore oil discoveries.

Mr Justin Keating, Minister for Industry and Commerce, who signed formal exploration licence documents with the eight groups here today, said he was confident finds would be made.

"The Government was greatly encouraged that all the major oil companies which it wanted to come to Ireland had come. Their best judgment is that oil is there and that is good enough for me", he said.

Under the licences the 80 per cent state share comes from maximum state equity of 50 per cent, tax on profits of 50 per cent, and a sliding scale of royalties ranging between 8 and 16 per cent.

The signing ceremony concluded four years of negotiations over exploration terms, according to oil sources. The exploration areas cover some 4,000 square miles.

Prospects 'modest': Mr Harold Wilson, director of the Northern Ireland Geological Survey, said in Belfast yesterday that there was a "reasonable chance" of finding commercial quantities of natural gas off Ulster's north Antrim coast. But such a find was likely to be modest and the chances of a large find were slight.

He was speaking at a seminar of more than 200 businessmen to examine the opportunities presented by oil exploration off the coast of Ulster and the Irish Republic.

The Stormont authorities issued drilling licences for up to only three miles off the Northern Ireland coast and beyond that limit they were a matter for the authorities in London, he said.

Rolls planning second rights issue in year

By Ronald Pullen

For the second time in a year, Rolls-Royce Motors is planning to raise more money from shareholders.

After last April's £2m rights issue, the latest call—on the basis of one new share at 45p for every five shares or £5 nominal convertible loan stock held at present—will bring in £4.13m.

Despite the relatively generous terms—the yield on the new money is nearly 12 per cent and the issue is at a deep 30 per cent discount on the overnight price—the shares closed 3p higher at 62p yesterday.

Rolls-Royce requires fairly frequent cash injections to fund its substantial capital spending plans over the coming years.

As the company again underlined in its annual report yesterday, it regards its outlook as sufficiently good to press ahead with its "anticyclical" investment programme despite the world-wide recession and the subdued start to the current year's trading, particularly in the diesel engine division.

Rolls-Royce was practically alone in the world car industry last year in managing to increase its level of profits. Demand for the Rolls marque continues to be firm, particularly in the important Middle East and United States markets, and production last year was at a record level of 3,134 units.

Expansion of the Crewe factory is planned. It is also thought that some of the money for the car division is earmarked for a new Silver Shadow model, which accounts for threequarters of total output, following the successful launch of the Camargue model.

In addition to expanding capacity in both the car and diesel engine divisions, some of the rights issue money will be used to replace antiquated machinery.

Financial Editor, page 21

Loan aid to leather group

By John Whitmore

The Department of Industry is making available an unsecured loan of £1.94m to Barrow Hepburn, the leather tanning, chemical and industrial group, while the company is raising a further £735,000 by a share placing.

Barrow raised £850,000 last summer by way of a rights issue, but the sharp rise in world hide prices has left the company with a much higher than expected working capital requirement.

Over the past year the world price for hide has risen from 22p to 52p a kilo and, with economies pulling out of recession in a year when the world cattle "kill" will probably be falling, the group expects prices to remain at their present levels or go higher.

Net borrowings last year rose from £10.7m to £13.7m and in the first two months of 1976 they have risen further, to £17.5m.

The loan from the Department of Industry, which carries a 12 per cent coupon and is repayable in the five years to 1982, is made under the 1972 Industry Act and is primarily for the provision of new plant and buildings at the group's manufacturing centre at Beverley in Yorkshire.

The £735,000 raised by way of a placing, partly to the group's existing institutional shareholders, has been effected by an issue of 1.75 million shares at 42p a share.

Bankers to the issue were Lazard Brothers and the brokers Joseph Sebag.

Financial Editor, page 21

Approval for container complex

By Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent

The case for a Maplin seaport in the forseeable future finally collapsed yesterday when the Port of London announced Government approval for a £16m container complex on the riverside alongside the present Tilbury Docks.

The biggest port development on the Thames for over a decade, the new complex is designed primarily to provide lock-free berths for the big second generation containerships of the Australia and New Zealand trade, whose needs constituted the most pressing argument for Maplin.

However, the PLA emphasized yesterday that it was not withdrawing its long-term commitment to Maplin, which it saw as complementary to the new riverside berths in the 1980s and beyond.

Occupying a 64-acre site, 25 acres of it to be reclaimed from the Thames, the new terminal will be developed jointly by the PLA, which will provide the infrastructure, and two container consortia, Overseas Containers Ltd and Associated Container Transportion (Australia), who will provide all surface equipment and operate the terminal.

It will consist of a 1,000ft quay with 42ft of water, and the world's biggest refrigerated container storage facility with capacity for 1,500 boxes at a time. Planned throughout will be up to 190,000 boxes a year, and the new terminal, which could be doubled in size later if demand justifies it, will release capacity at the PLA's common user terminal at present used by ACTA ships.

Singapore report identifies loss and gain factors in Haw share deals

Singapore, March 30.—The Singapore Stock Exchange said today that dealings in shares of Haw Par Brothers International between Slater, Walker Securities and Slater, Walker Australia in late 1971 and 1972, using subsidiary Singapore and Hongkong companies as intermediaries, apparently produced "ultimate" losses for shareholders of Slater, Walker Securities and ultimate benefits for shareholders of Slater, Walker Australia.

The exchange, in a long report on the activities of two of the Singapore intermediaries, Beaver Securities and Beaver Singapore, detailed the route by which two blocks of Haw Par shares—one of 1.6 million shares and the other of five million (subsequently raised to 6.6 million by a bonus issue)—were transferred from the London company to its then 35-per-cent-owned Australian associate.

The exchange said Beaver Securities and Beaver Singapore acquired 1.6 million and five million Haw Par shares respectively from Slater, Walker Equities, of London, through Slater, Walker (Singapore).

Both Beaver companies paid a price of $S1.43 a share, although the ruling market price on December 31, 1974—the date of the transactions—was $S3.52.

Statements issued by Haw Par and Slater, Walker Australia at the time said the Australian company was taking up the Haw Par stake "in order to facilitate closer investment cooperation between Slater, Walker's associates in Australia and South East Asia", the exchange said.

Beaver Securities subsequently sold its Haw Par shares in March, 1972, through Slater, Walker Securities (Singapore), at a profit of $S5.6m.

Beaver Singapore went into liquidation and passed its Haw Par shares to a Hongkong subsidiary of Slater, Walker Australia.

As a result of the subsequent disposal of these Haw Par shares in the market and to other companies associated with the Slater, Walker Securities, group profits of Hongkong $98.6m were realized, the exchange added.

Disposal of the shares in Hongkong started seven months after they were acquired, ostensibly as a long-term investment, it said.

The exchange said its report on the Beaver companies could be the last in its series of investigations into share dealings by Haw Par and related companies.—Reuter.

Swiss propose value-added tax

Berne, March 30.—Plans were announced today by the Swiss Government for a sweeping reform of the federal tax system, designed to provide an additional revenue of 3,000m francs (about £617m) annually, starting in 1978. Swiss voters must approve the project in a referendum next year.

A key part of the reform is the introduction of value-added tax, already in force in the European Community countries which are Switzerland's chief trading partners. It is expected to yield 3,400m francs more than the sales tax now in force. —AP-Dow Jones.

Opec considers price strategy

Vienna, March 30.—Experts of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have been meeting here this week to discuss oil price proposals after the present freeze expires on June 30, Dr Hamid Zaheri, spokesman for Opec headquarters, said today.

The experts were discussing the development of inflation in the Western industrialized countries and preparing an index linking the cost of industrial goods imported by the Opec countries to the price of oil, he said.

The reports will be submitted to Opec's economic commission

Chrysler tackles opposition to worker directorships

By Clifford Webb

Talks will begin in Coventry today aimed at overcoming union opposition to Chrysler UK proposals for worker-directors.

Full worker participation on the lines proposed by Chrysler nearly 10 months ago was one of the main conditions imposed by the Government for its £162m rescue deal.

Ostensibly today's meeting with national and local officials of all the unions and including officials of the Department of Industry, has been called to prepare the joint planning agreement which must be deposited with the Government during the next few months. It follows a preliminary meeting between Chrysler and union leaders on March 15.

Worker participation is such an integral part of the agreement that no worthwhile progress will be possible until this has been achieved. However, it became clear during the recent House of Commons expenditure sub-committee hearings on Chrysler that few, if any, of its shop stewards are prepared to take seats on the board or accept the principle

Chrysler feels that without worker involvement at the highest level it cannot make participation work as effectively as both they and the Government would like.

Unless new arguments have been found to persuade the unions to change their minds it seems that the only way out will be a compromise solution with participation stopping short of directorships.

Chrysler will soon have to face another serious threat to its plans to return to profits next year—the granting of pay parity at all their plants. In 1972 the company bowed to long-standing demands from workers at Linwood, Scotland, Luton and Dunstable and conceded the principle of parity with its higher paid Coventry employees.

The result was a four-year programme designed to progress towards full parity sometime this year. In the last annual round of wage negotiations when Chrysler workers received a basic £8 a week increase from July 1, 1975, there were additional parity payments for workers at Linwood, Luton and Dunstable but they were not sufficient to close the gap entirely.

Negotiations will start during the next few weeks for the new pay agreement due to operate from July 1. But with the next stage of the voluntary pay code still to be settled between the TUC and the Government, these talks will be taking place in a void.

Donald Macpherson Group

Improved performance in early months of current year

Addressing shareholders at the annual meeting in London on March 30, 1976 the chairman, Mr. Rex Chester, said:

"The improving trend of the second half of last year has been maintained in the early months of the current year.

In the United Kingdom, decorative volume is continuing to grow, and market share is increasing. Industrial volume is not yet reflecting any upturn in the economy, but here also market share is increasing.

Returns for the early months of the current year indicate considerable improvement in performance compared with the poor performance of the early months of 1975, and significantly higher sales and profits for the first half-year to the end of April 1976 are anticipated.

The company's investment programme is running well up to schedule and the first phase of the new decorative filling facility at Bury in particular, is now nearing completion."

	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971
Sales (£ millions)	32.0	25.1	20.1	16.6	14.8
Profit before taxation (£000)	1556	1718	1526	1028	638
Earnings per share*	5.90p	7.55p	7.93p	5.83p	3.72p
Dividends per share* (gross/gross equivalent)	3.30p	2.89p	2.27p	2.17p	1.81p
Shareholder funds (£ millions)	8.2	7.0	6.2	5.4	4.2

*comparative figures adjusted for 1975 rights issue.

Copies of the annual report are available on request from the Secretary, Donald Macpherson Group Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London, EC3.

How the markets moved

The Times index : 166.03 —0.37
The FT index : 404.2 —2.2

Rises

Anglo Amer Ind	30p to 550p
Bersf'ds SW	6p to 163p
Booker McCon	5p to 145p
Clairmace	4p to 36p
Drake Cubitt	2p to 18p
Duncan W	5p to 160p
Fisons	4p to 367p
Glaxo	5p to 383p
Messina Trans	5p to 195p
Midland	5p to 278p
Smith WH 'A'	10p to 352p
Srhn Malayan	5p to 155p
UC Invest	5p to 205p
W'sheaf Dist	5p to 131p

Falls

Charter Cons	7p to 126p
EMI	6p to 257p
Gordon & Gotch	3p to 45p
Hammerson	5p to 335p
Joseph L	10p to 180p
Lawtex	5p to 23p
Metalrax	1½p to 22½p
Roan Cons 'B'	5p to 145p
SA Land	5p to 130p
Selection Tst	5p to 480p
Sentrust	5p to 155p
Swire Pacific 'A'	7p to 162p
Town & Comm	1½p to 6p
Western Areas	5p to 180p

Equities were nervous ahead of the Labour poll results.

Gilt-edged securities had a good session.

Sterling lost 10pts to $1.9160. The "effective devaluation" rate was 34.1 per cent.

Gold lost 50 cents an ounce to $129.

SDR—$ was 1.15494 on Tuesday while SDR—£ was 0.603291.

Commodities: Coffee prices again reached new highs. Reuter's index was at 1286.7 (previous 1291.8).

Reports pages 22, 23 & 24

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.60	1.54
Austria Sch	36.00	34.00
Belgium Fr	80.50	77.50
Canada $	1.93	1.88
Denmark Kr	11.95	11.55
Finland Mkk	7.60	7.35
France Fr	9.15	8.85
Germany Dm	5.02	4.82
Greece Dr	69.00	65.50
Hongkong $	9.95	9.55
Italy Lr	1670.00	1585.00
Japan Yn	605.00	580.00
Netherlands Gld	5.30	5.10
Norway Kr	10.85	10.50
Portugal Esc	58.00	52.00
S Africa Rd	2.60	2.30
Spain Pes	130.50	124.50
Sweden Kr	8.70	8.40
Switzerland Fr	5.02	4.82
US $	1.96	1.91
Yugoslavia Dnr	37.50	34.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers cheques and other foreign currency business.

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Fair Trading chief urges advertising code reform

By Ronald Emler

Mr John Methven, director-general of Fair Trading, said yesterday that the advertising industry's voluntary code of practice had been much "revamped" in the past two and a half years, but it was still not as effective as it might be.

Speaking at the annual general meeting of the Advertising Association in London, he said he would like to see the controls develop to the point where there was no single violation of the code by an advertising agency.

Mr Methven said there had been much progress since the code was introduced 20 months ago and he recognized that advertising was highly competitive and one of the hardest fields in which to succeed, but the public were still not as aware as he would like of the code's provisions.

He advised the profession to monitor events "in the outside world" and search out the public's "reasonable demands".

Perhaps with an eye on his forthcoming move to the post of director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, Mr Methven concluded by saying that if advertising studied the needs of the public, the industry would succeed and so would British business in general. If it did not act there would be more controls and more legislation and "business will not succeed".

Minister tells overseas shipyards price cutting can spell disaster

By Peter Hill

Drastic and desperate price cutting by many overseas shipbuilding countries to attract orders was attacked yesterday by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry. He said that such policies could not fail to have a disruptive and disastrous effect.

In one of the most outspoken speeches on the subject, Mr Kaufman made it clear that the British Government—which is pressing ahead with plans to nationalize shipbuilding—took a very dim view of the attitudes of other countries.

"World cooperation in shipbuilding cannot survive in this sort of cut-throat atmosphere", he said. "What country is going to stand by and see its shipbuilding industry destroyed overnight in the name of free competition?

"This is a reality, a fact of life, which will have to be faced by the governments all over the world if we are to come to any sensible agreement internationally."

Mr Kaufman, who was addressing a luncheon attended by delegates to a shipping conference in London, said it would be tragic if all the good work undertaken towards free competition in shipbuilding were to be threatened by these developments.

He referred to the two-day meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development working party on shipbuilding in Paris which ends today, and said he hoped that delegates there would be able to make significant progress towards a just and equitable solution which would be acceptable.

Mr Kaufman also urged shipbuilding nations which are not members of the OECD nevertheless to join in any international initiative to restore order in the market.

He further gave United Kingdom shipping a gentle nudge on the eve of a key meeting. The General Council of British Shipping's general policy committee will today decide to what extent it can help the country's order-starved shipyards by bringing forward contracts. He urged them not to desert the market which they had supported so faithfully over the years.

Mr J. Graham Day, chief executive-designate of the new state body, British Shipbuilders, told the conference that the industry would survive the present difficulties and would emerge in due course, fitter and more able than previously.

Mr Day criticized the lack of any consistent long-term policy and the occasional total absence of any policy in the past. This, he suggested, may well have been the critical factor in giving rise to the recurring problems.

"Nationalization *per se* is not a solution for the British shipbuilding industry's current problems, or for its more traditional one", he said. "What nationalization will do is provide the framework within which, for the first time, a comprehensive policy and strategy for the industry can be worked out and progressively implemented."

Russia rejects freight rate charges

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Russia yesterday formally rejected claims of western shipping companies that her merchant fleet is engaged in freight rate "dumping" designed to destroy the existing liner conference system.

In a refutation of western claims, a high ranking Russian official then attacked unfair practices adopted by some shipping companies, including bribery, secret tariff reductions and what he described as "other shady commercial practices".

Mr Igor Averin, head of the foreign relations department of the Russian ministry of merchant marine, then suggested in a speech to a London conference that the time had come to take active steps to improve relations.

On the same platform, Mr Edward Heine, president of United States Lines Inc. expressed considerable scepticism of the Russian claims but proposed that they be given the benefit of the doubt in order to improve the international shipping atmosphere. But he also called on Russia to replace words with a demonstration of their good faith.

This unprecedented confrontation comes at a time when western shipping industries and their governments are involved in top-level discussions on how the apparent Russian merchant marine expansion can be curbed.

But Mr Averin attacked "attempts being made to surround the commercial activities of Soviet shipping companies in world shipping with an air of political intrigue".

On the question of rate "dumping", the Russian official said that on certain routes where they were operating as independent carriers, Soviet lines did indeed apply tariffs which were 10 and 20 per cent below those of conference lines.

Joint audit committee to set up six sub-groups

The new Joint Auditing Practices Committee of the Accountancy Bodies held its first meeting on Monday under the chairmanship of Mr R. G. Wilkes.

The committee, which was set up to advance auditing standards and provide a framework of practice for the exercise of an auditor's individual judgment, agreed to establish six sub-committees to cover the following fields: auditors' personal standards; auditors' operational standards; auditors' reporting standards; Council authorized standards on ad hoc topics; audit implications of accounting standards; and current audit intelligence.

Esso test drilling off Shetland next month

Esso Petroleum will start to drill its first exploratory well on Block 210/5 of the North Sea by mid-April, the company stated yesterday.

Esso is sole operator for the block, which is 130 miles north-east of Shetland and some 45 miles north of the Tern field discovered by Esso/Shell in 1975. It will be the most northerly hole drilled in the United Kingdom sector.

25 per cent increase in housing starts

Housing starts in the three months to February, as provisionally estimated by the Department of the Environment, rose 25 per cent on the same period a year ago and up 1 per cent on the previous three months.

Completions were 5 per cent down on the previous three months, but 9 per cent higher than the same period last year.

Receiver adjourns Mosbert meeting

Hongkong's official receiver yesterday adjourned his meeting with creditors of the Hongkong-registered Mosbert Holdings to April 7 to give them more time to produce proof of debt. Mosbert Holdings was ordered by the Supreme Court on March 11 to be liquidated following a petition by Fai Insurances, of Sydney, in January. A lawyer for Fai said Mosbert owed the Australian company HK$9m (£900,000).

Scotland 'faring better on economic front'

By David Leigh

Scotland's economy, the main political battleground between nationalists and those who want to stay in the United Kingdom, is no longer suffering as badly as Britain as a whole in relative terms.

But the economic buffer of North Sea oil jobs may cease in the future to have such an impact.

These are the conclusions of the *Scottish Economic Bulletin*, published yesterday by the Scottish Office. The twice-yearly review of economic trends in Scotland says unemployment there rose by only 38 per cent in 1975 while it rose by 65 per cent in the United Kingdom.

However, at the end of 1975 Scottish unemployment was still 5.9 per cent, against 4.9 per cent in the United Kingdom.

The *Bulletin* says oil-related employment, bringing about 50,000 jobs directly or indirectly has had an influence on modifying the rise in unemployment.

For the first time, the gross weekly earnings level of adult male manual workers in Scotland exceeded that of Great Britain. It was £56.7, compared with £55.7. The oil industry has partly influenced this.

Japanese TV dumping denied

Tokyo, March 30.—Leading Japanese colour television makers today denied allegations of unfair sales practices in the United States. They were commenting on Washington press reports that the International Trade Commission had opened an investigation to determine whether five Japanese manufacturers were selling colour television sets at dumped prices.

The five concerned are Hitachi, Tokyo Shibaura (Toshiba), Sharp Corporation, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation and Sanyo Electric Co.

Australia to lift car quotas but keep import levy

Canberra, March 30.—Australia has said it will end the present quota restrictions on car imports from the end of this year.

The government decided that import duties will be retained at 45 per cent for wholly imported cars until December 31, 1977.

Duties on cars imported for assembly in Australia will remain at 30 per cent until the end of this year and then be raised to 35 per cent.

Import duties may be cut by 10 per cent from the beginning of 1978, in both cases, if imports fall below 20 per cent of total car registrations over a full year. (These cuts were due to occur at this time under the 1974 policy of the former Labour government.)

S Africa may put up bank rate to herald tough budget

Cape Town, March 30.—Mr Theunis de Jongh, the South African Reserve Bank Governor, may announce a half per cent rise in the bank rate to 9 per cent, as the prelude to an expected severe budget tomorrow. Such a move would certainly be followed by an increase in the current 12 per cent prime overdraft rate.

Mr Owen Horwood, the Finance Minister, is expected to introduce a whole range of tax and other measures in his budget to meet higher 1976/77 expenditure estimates, mainly to meet defence spending, which is forecast to rise to around 1,530m rand (about £880m) from last year's budgeted 948m rand. Some analysts say that an increase of 1,000m rand is possible, which would have to be covered by loans and increased taxes.

The final deficit for 1975/76 is not expected to be excessively high because of curtailed government expenditure and a successful loan programme.

It is also considered that the basic company tax of 40 per cent and surcharge of 2.5 per cent (5 per cent for mining companies) on that figure will not be changed, but the present loan levy of 2.5 per cent of the 40 per cent basic tax will be increased. Reintroduction of a loan levy for individuals is also predicted.

Mining sources do not expect gold mines taxes to be lifted, and the minister is likely to be much more conservative than last year in his estimates of gold revenue for the year.

Survey reflects confidence in EEC upturn

From David Cross
Brussels, March 30

Consumer confidence about the economic outlook has recovered in Britain and most other EEC member countries, the European Commission said today. The only exceptions to this general trend were to be found in Italy and Ireland, it added.

The Commission was outlining the results of its latest consumer survey, based on a representative sample of about 25,000 households throughout the Community.

The survey, which was completed in January, reveals that West German consumers, for example, are now almost as optimistic about the economic situation as they were in 1972 before the onset of the recent recession.

In Britain, the marked improvement in consumer confidence which began last May has continued, the Commission says. Even in Belgium and the Netherlands, pessimism about the economic outlook has now given way to real optimism about the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Glove industry's plea for a fair chance

From Mr E. J. Little

Sir, I would like to endorse Dr P. W. Foster's remarks (March 26) regarding the importation of cheap textile goods.

The British glove industry has been suffering the same kind of problem for many years, so much so that 82 per cent of the gloves sold in the United Kingdom today are of foreign origin.

Unfortunately, in spite of representations made on behalf of our industry by the National Association of Glove Manufacturers to successive governments over the years for assistance to prevent the wrecking of an old industry, which still has a valid and necessary part to play in the nation's economy, our pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

This plea has not been one for a feather-bedded protectionist market but for a fair chance to trade under fair conditions. As an example of the basic unfairness of the position as it stands, it is possible to buy gloves from Hongkong for the same price as the cost of the raw materials alone in a similar glove made by British manufacturers, even though they are purchasing their raw materials in basically the same world markets.

Whatever Mr Bilitch thinks Adam Smith would have made of this situation I am sure he would not have advocated the wiping out of whole basic industries causing hardship individually and eventually nationally by the systematic and cynical methods which are being employed by an increasing number of foreign countries for a whole range of political, economic and other reasons.

Trade should be a two-way exercise for any nation and a glance at the United Kingdom trade figures at the end of any month tells the story of our perilous situation. Yet an ever increasing volume of imported goods streams into Britain, often from countries which operate import controls of their own of one form or another against British-made goods.

It is time that both the government and the general public realized that today's imported bargain may well have to be paid for with tomorrow's unemployment benefit, whilst there are still taxpayers left to provide that. Presumably when that runs out we ask the nations providing us with cheap imports to provide us with the wherewithal to buy their products.

Yours faithfully,
E. J. LITTLE,
Director,
Chas. Ockwell & Co Ltd,
Alkerton Works,
Cricklade,
near Swindon,
Wiltshire.
March 26.

From Mr S. G. Grant

Sir, The introduction of major import controls for the purpose of making a significant contribution to the solution of our economic problems has been strongly supported this week by Mr Benn. The folly of adopting such a policy will be brought home by a report contained in your Business News today (March 27) that in the first two months of this year the British motor industry had a favourable balance of payments surplus of £288m, resulting from exports worth £243 for every £100 of imports. The introduction of import controls on cars would gravely embarrass a key industry.

Yours faithfully,
S. G. GRANT,
23 Sollershott West,
Letchworth,
Hertfordshire.
March 27.

Inter-weaving training with work

From Mr A. H. Wright

Sir, On successive days you have reported statements (from TUC and Business Education Council leaders) in which the need for employers to allow more students to attend courses on day-release has been mentioned. It is not often that we have so clear a demonstration of the uncoordinated and fragmentary way in which our educational system lurches along.

The general (but narrow) debate now launched by the Government as well as the consultations which preceded the announcement by BEC and the numerous other peripheral studies being made by Schools Council, SRC, SSRC and other bodies are unlikely to achieve significant results unless they can be related to the results of a wider study of the core problems which have been neglected for too long.

I believe that change is necessary in both the worlds of education and employment and an adequate study, such as I have in mind, would embrace a thorough review of education, training and employment from post-cradle to pre-retirement in present and prospective environments.

Among much else, such a study might explain why day-release is not used as much as the TUC and BEC would like and might propose that sixth year pupils should spend half of their time only in school and half at work, with two pupils employed to fill one job by rotation on a daily, weekly or monthly cycle. The interweaving of subsequent employment with education/training might then become accepted practice.

Yours faithfully,
A. H. WRIGHT
Silver Birches,
Loughill Road,
Chavey Down,
Ascot,
Berkshire.
March 25.

A comprehensive study of UK products

From Mr B. Locke.

Sir, Sir Roger Falk chaired a most worthwhile seminar "Why Buy British?" at Heals under the auspices of the Design and Industries Association on March 23. One could conclude that (a) there are indeed very good British designers; (b) there is also much poor design, manufacture, delivery, marketing and consumer relations, and that (c) national statistics ought to encourage design organizations to play a full part in improving things.

A small working party of significant people could mount suitable exercises to determine:

(i) What the United Kingdom failings actually were towards the purchaser in markets at home and abroad;

(ii) what the causes might be all along the chain from conception via manufacture, sales and use, to recycling or throwing away;

(iii) what might need to be done (a) to correct current downward sales trends, (b) positively to improve matters;

(iv) the extent to which improvement/change might be possible and the resources required; and

(v) how the needed results might best be achieved.

That is, the working party could draw up a plan for action to improve the market position of United Kingdom consumer durables.

The exercise might best involve industry and government combined with both retail and consumer representation, taking account also of views from such large interests as women's organizations, unions, and legislators, eg standards and safety authorities.

Issues like these concern so many people that such a working party would surely be welcomed.

Brian Locke,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1Y 5ER.

Inveresk Group

RESULTS FOR 1975	Year ended 31st December 1975 £000	Year ended 31st December 1974 £000
External Sales	34,627	37,888
Profit before taxation	1,265	4,658
Profit after taxation	1,105	3,972
Preference Dividends	105	105
Ordinary Dividend	573	572
Increase in retained profit	427	3,293
Earnings per Ordinary Stock Unit of 50p:–		
Net basis	7.6p	29.5p
Nil basis	8.8p	31.4p

The following are extracts from the Report of the Directors:

Results. After three years of progressive improvement it is disappointing to have to report that the results for 1975 are substantially less than for the preceding year. During 1974 demand, swollen by inflation, for most of the Group's products was considerably in excess of underlying consumption resulting in large increases in customers' stocks. In 1975 there was an inevitable substantial reduction in these inventories to more normal levels against the background of declining economic activity in the U.K. and in most other major countries. Inflationary pressures have continued throughout most of the year. The combination of considerably lower activity and increasing operating expenses has produced a severe contraction of profit.

Ordinary Dividend. The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31st December, 1975, of 3.105p per Ordinary Stock Unit (1974, 3.105p) which, together with the interim dividend declared of 1.25p (1974, 1.25p), makes a total dividend for the year of 4.355p (1974, 4.355p).

Review of Operations – Paper and Board Group. The first signs of a reduction in demand, reflecting the considerable over-purchasing by customers in 1974, became apparent towards the end of that year and continued throughout 1975. Somewhat unusually, demand for the more specialised technical and industrial products, which is normally fairly stable, has suffered more severely than general printing and writing and packaging grades. This would appear to reflect the general recession in much of British industry. Certain operations making printing and writing products continued to operate at high levels of activity throughout the first quarter but thereafter demand in this sector also dropped substantially. Demand improved slightly in the last few weeks of 1975 but on average throughout the year the Group's paper and board mills have operated at levels of about 65 per cent. of capacity.

Apart from the large reduction in volume, competition from both U.K. and overseas suppliers has resulted in a serious under-recovery of increased raw material and operating expenses. While selling prices on the whole remained reasonably firm, it has not been possible to reflect the substantial extra cost in terms of sterling of the main raw material, woodpulp, which was, for the most part, priced in U.S. dollars or Swedish kroner. The substantial decline in the value of the pound during the year has resulted in an effective increase in raw material costs. It is estimated that the under-recovery of raw material costs alone is of the order of £2 million. Unfortunately, much of the paper imported into Britain is sold at sterling prices which do not reflect the weakness of the pound or other increases in operating expenses.

Packaging Group. The operations of Vernon Packaging Limited suffered a setback as a result of the substantial reduction of stocks by most of its main customer sectors, notably motor and engineering. Activity improved considerably towards the end of the year and has continued into the first quarter of 1976.

Stationery and Merchanting Group. Sales of both manufactured and factored stationery products continued at a high level throughout the first half of 1975. Thereafter demand declined, reflecting partly over-purchasing by customers and partly economy measures taken by a number of major customer sectors. The large increases in postal charges have inevitably had an adverse effect on sales of envelopes. Profit margins have come under pressure and increases in overhead expenses have been incurred.

The business of H. J. Chapman & Co. Limited showed strong growth during the first half of the year and made encouraging progress in securing additional new contract business. Demand was not so strong during the second half of the year but a good level of activity has been maintained.

At Inveresk Stationery's factory at Edinburgh increased capacity for production of envelopes and other stationery products was successfully commissioned. A. Kingham Limited produced a very satisfactory result, although demand for its products eased slightly during the second half of the year.

The results of Inveresk Paper Merchants Limited have largely reflected the experience of the Paper and Board Group. Reduced demand and increasing pressure on selling prices and profit margins together with increases in overhead expenses produced a disappointing outcome for the year. David Mico Limited, whose business is more specialised, had an encouraging and successful year.

Northfleet Industrial Development. The second phase of the development of the Northfleet site as a mixed industrial estate was satisfactorily completed on schedule and within budget on 31st May, 1975. The completed development now provides some 544,000 sq. ft. of lettable space at a total construction cost of about £3 million.

Future Prospects. The outlook for the U.K. economy during 1976 remains uncertain. The U.K. balance of payments continues in deficit and this must restrict the scope for early reflationary measures. The Government's programme to contain domestic inflation has recently shown some success but the value of the pound against the U.S. dollar and other major trading currencies will continue to have an important influence on the cost of imported raw materials and competition from imported products. Much will also depend on the continuation of the recent improvement in business confidence in the U.S. and Europe.

The Group will continue to practice the most rigid economies. However, in the short term, the level of profitability will depend to an increasingly higher extent upon whether market conditions will permit at least a major part of the additional costs unavoidably incurred to be recovered by appropriate increases in the selling prices of the Group's products.

It appears that customers' stocks have now been substantially reduced and demand for packaging materials and converted products is showing encouraging improvement. However, the present indications are that a sustained increase in general demand is unlikely to be shown during the first half of 1976 but there should be an improvement in the level of activity during the second half of the year. The Group is well placed to take full advantage of any such improvement.

The Fifty-third Annual General Meeting of Inveresk Group Limited will be held at Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London W.C.2 on Friday, 23rd April, 1976, at 12 noon.

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1975 may be obtained from the Secretary at Clan House, 19 Tudor Street, London, EC4Y 0BA.

THE MERCANTILE INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

Points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. J. A. F. Binny, in the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st January, 1976.

Year to 31st January	1976	1975
Gross Revenue	£4,936,629	£6,573,600
Ordinary Earnings	0.83p	1.57p
Ordinary Dividend	1.61p	1.61p
Net Assets	£94.11m	£77.15m
Assets per Ordinary Share	43½p	29½p

- The net asset value rose over the year by 47%. Revenue was, as forecast, significantly lower, but no change in the dividend is proposed. For the current year the Board expects to recommend a dividend of 0.8p and it would hope to see in future a steady progression from this level.
- Against an improving economic background a favourable view is taken of the stock market prospects and during the current year the fund's gearing should be working in the shareholders' favour. The Board will remain sensitive to any alteration in the outlook in order to reduce the gearing later in the market cycle.
- The company provides a broad geographical spread of investment with end-January showing 51.6% in the U.K., 34.8% in America, 5.5% in Europe, 4.8% in South Africa and 3.5% in Australia, Hong Kong and Japan.
- Whilst unquoted securities, particularly in venture capital fields figure prominently in the portfolio, the emphasis will in future be towards a reduction in such holdings.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary at Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1BY where the Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 27th April, 1976 at 10.30 a.m.

Securicor

GROWTH

PRE-TAX PROFIT up from £2.63m to £2.75m. Profit from operations advanced by 18% in the second half of the year – an improvement that has continued into the opening months of this year.

TURNOVER, up from £46m to £61m, has been consistently buoyant and shows 20% growth in real terms.

DEMAND for Securicor services is still gratifyingly high.

STABILITY. By investing in our own business (land, buildings and vehicles), fixed assets have grown from £7.9m to £10.8m.

GROUP LIQUIDITY remains strong and I am satisfied we can cover cash requirements without recourse to shareholders in the foreseeable future.

—PETER SMITH,
Chairman

For a copy of Mr Smith's statement covering the year ended September 26, 1975, write to: The Secretary, Securicor Group Ltd, 38a St George's Drive, London SW1V 4BW.

EVODE HOLDINGS

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Dr. H. Simon, C.B.E.

Progress has been satisfactory, taking into consideration the unstable economic conditions. New products, new markets, deeper market penetration, technological and marketing know-how generally, and more sophisticated equipment helped to overcome the effects of trade recession.

On the export side we were able to extend sales dramatically, and there is still the possibility of increasing our share of the market outside of the U.K. on a world-wide scale.

Total exports from the U.K., including sales to confirming houses, were £1,381,222.

Co-operation is more than ever essential if industry is expected to be successful and to provide continuing employment. Under current circumstances, the motivation and fair reward of employees is a particular concern. The problem is aggravated by the erosion of the real living standards which are being affected by the Incomes Policy and highly punitive tax structure.

In spite of the problems mentioned above, the co-operation of all our employees has been excellent, for which the Company is most grateful.

The year in brief	£'000
Turnover	14,372
Group Profit before Taxation and before Extraordinary item	1,208
Taxation	616
Earnings per 20p Ordinary Share	7.44p
Net Asset Value per 20p Share	52.37p

EVODE HOLDINGS LIMITED
Common Road Stafford ST16 3EH Tel: 0785 3191

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Grindlays after the losses

Stock market doubts that the half year provisions had seen the end of the Brandts troubles have proved more than justified. After setting aside nearly £12m for Brandts' property book in the first half, Grindlays has since had to take up £6m of the £6.5m extra which it had put into general provision at that stage, and it must be anybody's guess whether there is more yet to come.

Overall, then, after £5m for topping up the general provision, £27m of specific provisions and a more than trebled tax charge, the year end net loss is more than doubled at £30.1m, and compares to £15.9m at the half year.

That leaves Grindlays with capital resources of £83m to set against deposits some £300m higher at £1,800m—hardly satisfactory, especially in the light of the impact of the recent sterling decline on currency deposits, but a ratio with which Grindlays at least says it is happy.

The figures are not without some cheer, however, as the 2p gain in the holdings' shares to 32p indicates. Overseas earnings have continued to surge, rising by £6m before tax with few problem areas, Cyprus apart. The reorganization in London, meanwhile, appears to be paying off, the first half United Kingdom losses before transfer to general provision of £1m being cut to £2m in the second. The United Kingdom should be profitable this year, with some £40m of tax losses still to work on. The problem, of course, is the dividend prospect, although at least a modest payment this year is assured since Grindlays is determined to keep its trustee status.

Grindlays Bank
Final: 1975 (1974)
Pre-tax losses £7.64m (£5.64m)
Loss per share 141p (81p)

Mr Ian Fraser, *chairman of* Rolls-Royce Motors: second rights issue within 12 months.

Pye Holdings

Cuts the dividend

Pye Holding's shares ended yesterday 4p up at 52p despite a cut of nearly one third in the net final dividend. True, the shares still yield a respectable 8½ per cent, against 10½ per cent on the basis of 1974's dividends, but the market's sang-froid may owe something to the fact that the cut was not immediately obvious from the results.

The decision to cut the dividend reflects in part Pye's own none too sanguine view of its prospects in 1976. But a more immediate factor is the jump from £2.23m to £3.93m in the sum appropriated after tax to "stock replacement reserve" —Pye's own form of inflation accounting adjustment.

Obviously inflation in the cost of material and component stocks was a factor here but the implication is that Pye was left carrying heavy stocks in 1975 because of adverse trading conditions, though apparently they began to fall around the end of the year. So, this year's appropriation should be considerably smaller.

Whether trading conditions will permit a restoration of the dividend depends largely upon colour television deliveries, which were very depressed in the second half of last year. United Kingdom manufacturers' capacity is moving down more in line with demand but selling prices remain weak. Redundancy costs on the consumer goods side cost trading profits between £1½m and £2m last year but though this year's will bear much less of a burden the overseas operations, which held up so well last year, are expected to decline in 1976.

Capital goods—telephony—looks like being the only firm area this year, on the strength of overseas demand. The historic p/e of 5 is relatively undemanding but the shares could be a weak market pending more evidence of a revival in consumer goods demand.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £25.5m
* *Sales* £233m (£204m)
* *Pre-tax profits* £10.94m (£10.64m)
Earnings per share 10p (10p)
Dividend gross 4.47p (5.6p)
* Pye of Cambridge.

Smith & Nephew

Write-offs at Gala

Smith & Nephew's shares are now exactly where they were in August, when I recommended investors to leave them alone until there was more information on the Gala debacle. Smith & Nephew has now had to write £4.83m (less £1.54m in tax relief) off its stocks and debtors, because the sales figures reported by some Gala subsidiaries during 1974 turn out to have been based on hope rather than experience.

This figure has, however, been written off 1974 profits rather than those of the year just ended, which show only a marginal improvement (0.7 per cent at the pre-tax level) on the total for 1974 as originally reported.

At first sight this looks like a cosmetic exercise. Smith & Nephew, however, insists that it complies with the relevant accounting standard, and that all the stocks thus written off were extant at the end-74 balance sheet date. Production excesses in 1975 consequent upon the unduly optimistic sales figures reported for the preceding year have come to roost in the cosmetic division's performance in 1975; the division went into the red by some £500,000 but following reorganization and a measure of rationalization, losses have now been eliminated.

The plastics division, too, has been doing badly, with its contribution reduced by around two-thirds; and in neither case is there anything more than a marginal improvement in demand showing through so far. However, the medical and textile divisions are both performing strongly, and hygiene has more than recovered the marginal decline of the preceding year.

Of itself, however, that is not likely to put much steam into the shares, now at 47½p for a yield of 6.4 per cent.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £70.5m
Sales £118.6m (£105.7m*)
Pre-tax profits £11.82m (£6.9m*)
Earnings per share 4.47p (2p*)
Dividend gross 3.02p (2.9p)
* As amended for prior year adjustment.

Barrow Hepburn

A cautionary tale

If one wants a foretaste of what an upsurge in commodity prices could do to British industry this year, then Barrow Hepburn provides as good a cautionary tale as any. With the world hide price more than doubling over the last year, Barrow Hepburn's working capital requirement has inevitably soared, the more so as the group has, understandably, tried to accumulate as much stock as possible before prices go still higher.

So, despite last summer's £850,000 rights issue, short-term borrowings last year went up from £1.8m to £5m and total borrowings from £10.7m to £13.7m, where they stood against *shareholders' funds* (including £1.4m goodwill) of £10m. Since then borrowings have moved up to £17.5m, by far the greater part of which is short-term or repayable within five years.

Quite reasonably, the group has not wanted to launch a further rights issue at, say, a 30 per cent discount. As it is a further 10 per cent addition to the equity at a near 11 per cent discount to the overnight price looks to add under 3 per cent to gross working capital. But if the proposed funding looks to be the best bet from the shareholders' viewpoint, the taxpayer might well ask why the Department of Industry is making funds available on an unsecured basis in what is now a very highly geared situation.

Rolls-Royce Motors

Heavy capital demands

Two rights issues in under a year is not the end of the story for Rolls-Royce shareholders, who must now be prepared to put up extra cash at fairly frequent intervals. Deprived of the money from the 1973 issue for sale by the liquidator, RR has found itself sorely undercapitalized.

Given the heavy demands of the capital spending programme —vital for RR's long-term future—stretching a long way ahead and a level of retentions inadequate to cover the increased scale of RR's activities, it is anyone's guess as to the amount it will need to inject over the next few years.

Aside from concern over the balance sheet—where an early attack on stock levels is crucial whatever the company asserts about the cheapness of EGCD finance—RR is still vulnerable so far as trading is concerned.

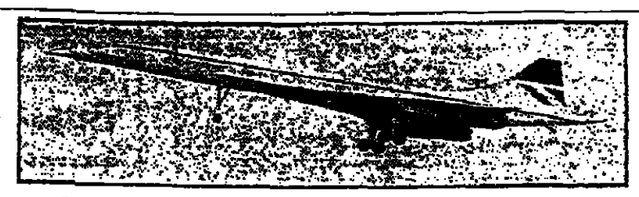
Those doubts show up in the generous terms of the latest rights issue RR has had to offer to ensure the success of the underwriting. As I said before, the yield, 9.1 per cent on the ex-rights price of 59p, is the main backstop.

What a catastrophic tale the history of Woolworth's Swiss franc borrowings has turned out to be. When it took on one five-year loan of 50m francs in June 1971 and another in February 1972 there were 10 francs to the pound so that the loans raised £10m for the company.

By the end of 1974-75 the sterling cost of repaying those loans was £16.8m, a loss to shareholders of £6.8m. The 1975-76 accounts now show losses of a further £2m.

Fortunately, Woolworth took out forward cover last December on the first of its loans which matures this year so it has secured some insulation against the latest sterling collapse. But forward cover can only be obtained within six months of a loan maturing so nothing can be done to protect the other loan, due for repayment next February, until August. In the meantime, the loss on that loan, with the Swiss franc below five to the pound, is already another £700,000, so that the loss on the original £10m is presently £9.5m.

Staff writers in Britain and France discuss the uncertain future of the Anglo-French supersonic aircraft



Concorde: the cost of avoiding a stall

The aircraft industries of Britain and France expressed intense disappointment yesterday at what they considered to be a lack of decisions on the future of Concorde taken by ministers of the two partner governments at their review meeting in Paris on Monday.

But Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, for Britain, and M Marcel Cavaillé, the French Minister of Transport, *found themselves in an impossible* position to meet the industries' demands.

How could they justify the laying down of six further Concordes, they asked industry leaders yesterday, when seven of the original 16 aircraft sanctioned for construction remain unsold, and when both Britain and France are under intense economic strain?

Mr Kaufman and M Cavaillé have been under pressure *from the aircraft firms* to build more Concordes, or to start work on a developed version—the mark two aircraft.

The aircraft firms believe these propositions to be essential *for two major reasons*:

(1) To keep the technical teams from fragmenting.

(2) As an earnest of the governments' long-term faith in the future of the supersonic airliner.

Of the two options, it would probably be better to go for the development of the mark two version, for few world airlines are likely to be very interested *in buying or leasing the* present type as operated by British Airways and Air France, which is short on range, does not have enough seats to be truly economic in operation, and which offends airport authorities with its noise on take-off and landing.

Even the investment of a small further-tranche of money say a total of £20m by the two governments in work towards the bigger and better Concorde would indicate to potential foreign airline buyers that they are interested in the future of the Concorde, and are not likely to retreat from the project a moment after the airline had made a down payment.

At the same time, it would not have cost an enormous amount of money to have laid down the foundations of a *further* six Concordes — say £10m for Britain and a similar amount of money for France. Long-lead items for Concordes 17-22 were in fact authorized by the two governments in 1973 and are already in the factories.

This would ensure that the *assembly lines are at least kept* ticking over against potential further orders—the Department of Industry confirmed in London yesterday a trade union rumour that negotiations are *going on between the British* Aircraft Corporation and "a foreign airline" for Concorde airliners, although the ministry would not say which airline is involved.

The money would *not* necessarily all be spent, for the whole Concorde project will reach a make-or-break point soon, probably by the end of this year. By that time British Airways and Air France will have been operating commercial services into Washington for over six months and, if the legal objections are overcome, into New York as well.

American airlines and those from other parts of the world, notably South America, the Middle East and the Far East, will by that stage be in a position, on the evidence of the success or otherwise of the BA and AF American services, to *decide whether or not to go* supersonic. They could be helped to make up their minds by the fact that work at Filton and Toulouse was going ahead on a few further aircraft, and *on improving the design.*

If, in spite of these earnests, the world airline industry refused to go supersonic, the whole Concorde project could then be scrapped—but nobody could suggest that it had gone by default.

Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Jobs in jeopardy

There are few illusions among those producing the Concorde in British Aircraft Corporation factories in the United Kingdom and at Aerospatiale's complex in Toulouse about the size of the threat to their jobs.

If additional aircraft to the 16 production-line Concordes now building or on the stocks had been ordered, or even initial fabrication work agreed for new aircraft, it would have been possible to have looked to the supersonic plane's providing work beyond 1978.

As it is, even though the *Anglo-French decision* to produce spares for the seven unsold Concordes buys some more time in both production level and employment terms, it cannot now be too long before any lack of additional airline orders will demand decisions on further workforce reductions.

BAC is already well into a six-month programme, due to finish in May, which is whittling down Concorde employment by a total of 2,400 jobs at Filton, Bristol, Weybridge in Surrey, Hurn near Bournemouth and Fairford in Gloucestershire. Natural wastage and early retirements are, according to BAC, coping with about half that rundown.

It still means forced redundancy for 350 workers at the Filton assembly hangars where the Brabazons were once built, 230 at Weybridge where forward and rear fuselage sections of Concorde are constructed, 130 at Hurn which makes Concorde's droop nose section and 80 at the Fairford flight test centre.

The decision to produce more Concorde spares is not going to ease this rundown.

BAC, at any rate officially, *is not at this moment contemplating* a further phase of redundancies. But there are fears in Bristol, where some 90 per cent of nearly 8,000 workers at Filton are involved in Concorde, *including the highly* specialized design staff, that it will be hard to avoid progressive erosion of the workforce as times goes by.

Volunteers

Filton is in fact accounting for half the present BAC rundown and local employment officials estimate that this is putting about 600 workless on their books. Much of the apparent discrepancy with BAC's forced redundancy figure for Filton could be accounted for by those who opted for voluntary terms.

There may be room for switching workers into other *BAC production. A BAC 1-11* line has been resuscitated at Hurn, for instance, following a Rumanian order and some sections for that aircraft are being fabricated at Filton.

BAC has a guided weapons factory at Bristol and there are a number of projects which could produce more jobs if export orders come up to expectations.

The military aircraft side could also become busier. There is an Anglo-French requirement for 400 Jaguar strike attack aircraft, possibly with topping up in export orders. The Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MRCA) being developed jointly in Britain, Germany and Italy will call for the production of 800 aircraft.

But these expectations cannot yet be translated into hard and fast employment terms. The biggest question mark of all, too, hangs over the future of the aerospace industry when nationalization becomes a fact probably at the beginning of next year.

Lord Beswick, who is chairman designate of the British Aerospace Corporation, is still getting together his organizing committee to look at all the *hand-over problems.*

Inevitably combining BAC, Hawker Siddeley Aviation, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics and Scottish Aviation is bound to raise questions of production *rationalization. Would, other* factors being equal, a production unit in an area of higher unemployment be kept going at the expense of those in less affected areas?

That might call into question a Weybridge, a Hurn or even part, if not all, of a Filton. It could easily be said at Bristol, for instance, that although the city has lately run into harder economic times it is still at an unemployment level around the national average.

Short-time working has largely disappeared from paper and board production and tobacco processing, two of the city's substantial industries apart from aerospace. Some engineering companies are still

Nationalization

If Filton were closed in favour of some other centre in a rescrambling following nationalization, it would presumably come well after next winter's unemployment peak and the city could theoretically mop up many redundancies, except that the specialized *skills of aircraft workers would* find few appropriate niches unless they moved to aerospace centres where work was continuing.

What is a more likely *scenario at Bristol, of course,* is a conjunction between pressures for rationalization and a Concorde rundown. A reduction in the Filton workforce without scrapping the centre as such might meet both situations.

But at Bristol there would still be the question of the infrastructure represented by Concorde in employment terms. Some of the 300 or so subcontractors on Concorde are in the Bristol area, and there is a substantial Concorde content in work at the Rolls-Royce (1971) engine factory also at Filton.

Between 15,000 and 20,000 jobs in Bristol could well depend on Concorde. Already this is leading to an intensification of the campaign by local interests, like Avon County Council and Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Shipping, for the industrial development certificate policy for the city to be eased so replacement industry can be brought in.

Whether they can make a case for taking industry that would otherwise find its way to a development area is open to question. But as Mr Gerras Walker, chairman of Avon County Council, remarked yesterday: "What we would like *to avoid is that the Government* take no action on relaxing IDCs until the extra unemployment is actually upon us and when it will be too late to take the *right remedial action.*"

Derek Harris

Scepticism in Toulouse

The "holding operation" essayed by M Marcel Cavaillé, the French Secretary of Transport, when meeting his British colleagues yesterday has failed to convince his intended audience—the French aeronautical workers building Concorde.

Today's reactions via their trade union spokesmen, regardless of political colour, showed deep scepticism about the French Government's declarations after the talks, coupled with a determination to fight the feared rundown of jobs.

But the Toulouse workers' scepticism also extends to their British colleagues, to judge by M Jacques Doutel, deputy secretary of the works committee at the Toulouse plant of Aerospatiale, the French builders of the supersonic aircraft, on French radio this morning. "I fear the British trade unions are ready to abandon Concorde. I find them without any backbone in the matter", he said, "perhaps because they believe there's a future for Britain in North Sea oil.

"We French trade unionists", he went on, "intend to try and still convince the British unions that it would be an error to abandon Concorde because that could mean the end of all European aeronautics."

A typical reaction among the Aerospatiale workers was perhaps summed up today by unofficial estimates, the Société Nationale Industrielle Aerospatiale can also count on a voluntary "rundown of effectives", *as the phrase goes*, amounting to about 2,000 departures a year from the state-run concern, thanks to the existing uncertainties.

It is these rundown tactics which seem to explain a lot of the workers' present scepticism. Union leaders explain that their demand for a decision to build more Concordes, or equivalent aircraft, at Toulouse is simply because on the French side the basic components have already been made and assembly work on the production lines now only gives jobs for some 300 to 400.

Already some 400 have been transferred to building helicopters at Aerospatiale plants elsewhere.

The management of Aerospatiale announced yesterday the setting up of an employment committee to examine the general implications of a situation where "present job levels could not be maintained". Although workers' jobs on Concorde are not directly involved, the unions have summoned an emergency meeting for Saturday throughout the state aerospace concern.

Richard Wigg
in Paris

DEW

Extracts from Chairman's Statement and Annual Report

The Accounts for the year ended 31st October, 1975, show an increase in profit of almost 7½% over last year's record figure. The current workload is satisfactory and is in excess of that obtaining at this time last year.

	1975	1974
Turnover	£13.9m	£13.2m
Profit before Tax	£1,272,482	£1,184,151
Profit after Tax	614,487	589,488
Dividend	138,073	127,194
To General Reserve	50,000	50,000
Retained Profit for the year	426,414	392,294
Dividend per Ordinary Share (maximum permitted)	6.96p	6.3p
Earnings per Ordinary Share of 25p	20.14p	18.66p

During the past year much time has been spent in investigating *possibilities and submitting tenders for projects in the Middle East.* Consistent with our policy in the United Kingdom, we have concentrated on the types of projects specially suited to our expertise, and also that of our subsidiary company, Munro Piling & Foundations Limited of Glasgow.

It is proposed that our wholly-owned subsidiary, George Dew International Limited, will handle all future overseas contracts and has already entered into a partnership in the United Arab Emirates.

I am confident that the Company's success will continue.

G. DEW & CO. LTD.
OLDHAM & OVERSEAS
Contractors for
Civil Engineering and Industrial Building
Piling & Foundations and Landscaping Divisions

Business Diary: Nash's hot line • Court circulars

Ken Nash takes over one of the hotter backroom seats when he becomes finance director of Post Office Telecommunications in June. In his new job Nash, who is 56, will be responsible for the entire accounting, budgeting, costing and billing of an operation with a yearly turnover of about £2,000m and assets worth nearly £5,000m.

Telecommunications account for about 65 per cent of the Post Office's total income. Unlike the rest of the service it managed to make a pre-tax profit until 1974-75, when it suddenly chalked up a £190m deficit owing to a combination *of inflation and sagging* business use.

The financial year ends today and the Post Office as a whole is back in the black with a "modest profit". And, according to Sir Edward Fennessy, deputy chairman of the Post Office and director of the telecommunications division, his side of the business will contribute about £80m, or 2 per cent, of turnover. *Nash's* job will be to see that it stays in the black.

Nash has been with the Post Office, apart from wartime service, since he was 18 and has been involved with telecommunications finance for the past 20 years. He succeeds Alfred Levell, who is retiring.

Post Office Telecommunications' Nash.

Life line

The task of clearing up after the defunct Court Line companies seems to go on for ever. C. E. Heath Urquhart (Life & Pensions), managers of the the group's pension fund, are still searching for 60 or so former employees, nearly two years after the collapse.

As contributors, the former *employees are possibly entitled* to refunds of between £100 and £500, but two sets of circulars to their last known addresses have not elicited any response.

In a final attempt to make contact, *C. E. Heath Urquhart is* trying advertising, backed by a last circular. The difficulty, it seems, is that most of the workers employed by Court Line Aviation and based at Luton may have gone abroad.

Dialling Europe

One of the great advantages of the *Common Market*, according to the pro-Europeans, is the scope for increased trade, especially for small and medium-sized companies. But where does the exporter start his search for suitable outlets? Jacques Dalbin, president and director-general of Sodemac, hopes that from now on it will be in the pages of the *Common Market Telephone Directory.*

Dalbin was in London yesterday for the British launch of his directory, which has been produced simultaneously in five languages and which lists over *95,000 importing and exporting* companies in the EEC. The directory, apart from listing companies, gives statistical data for the EEC and has over 1,000 classified headings. Dalbin *claims that the primary intention* is to enable companies within national boundaries to obtain supplies and services throughout the EEC.

Marketing in Britain and the *Irish Republic is being handled* by a wholly owned subsidiary of Dalbin's Luxembourg based Sodemac, Distribution of European Information (GB), of Bromley, Kent. And yesterday Dalbin announced that DEI had been given the blessing of two prominent "Europeans" who were joining its board.

They are Lord Harlech, *former chairman of the Euro*pean Movement, and Sir Patrick Reilly, vice-president of the London Chamber of Commerce and former ambassador to France.

Getting together the directory details has involved some 500 interviewers contacting over 250,000 companies in the EEC during the past 18 months.

Although the venture is Dalbin's brainchild, it is heavily underwritten by several large European financial institutions, notably the Société Financière Europeenne. So far *some £5m has been sunk* into the venture.

In true European spirit and in the absence of a true European currency, the price is determined in Eurcos. For the uninitiated Dalbin will accept £36 in lieu of the 60 Eurcos price tag he has put on the first edition.

Stamp duty

It seems that one of the most bizarre manifestations of past inflation is likely to benefit from the view that it is best *to invest one's money in tang*ible collectors' items—in the interests of beating inflation, of course.

On April 27 Stanley Gibbons is holding another of its Paper *Money auctions, and among the* items coming under the hammer are German 20, 50 and 100 billion mark notes issued in February, 1924, by the Reichsbank. When issued the three notes would have been worth at most a total of £59, but are now expected to sell for £3,250.

Jack's aide

Todd Sullivan is few people's idea of a trade union leader. His history before arriving at Britain's largest union includes *the management side of labour* negotiations, the Commission on Industrial Relations, and the general secretaryship of a house union.

Now only 18 months after bringing the Union of Kodak Workers into the Transport and General Workers' Union he has been taken into Transport House by Jack Jones as national secretary for white collar members in the private sector.

With only about a quarter of Britain's nine million office workers in unions, 42-year-old Sullivan has got a job which gives plenty of scope for his considerable ambition. He freely admits that up to now the TGWU white collar section, the Association of Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Staffs with 130,000 members—about 85,000 in the private sector—has made a poor showing.

Sullivan's experience with the Kodak workers gave him plenty of experience in getting people, suspicious of unions, into the TUC fold. Only a couple of years ago he was being villified as an anti-union leader. He shrugs this off and says staffs associations are a necessary transition for many workers on the road from no organization to full-blooded trade unionism.

Times are indeed tough. Do you remember the days when everyone used to collect their sixpences in Dimple Haig whisky bottles? It now transpires that the sixpenny piece (still surviving as the equivalent of 2½p) no longer fits the narrowed neck of the Dimple Haig bottle. John Haig suggests that savers try 5p pieces instead.

In the old days it was reckoned that a full bottle (of sixpences) totted up to £40. Allowing for the fact that the 5p is of less physical substance, as well as value, we estimate that the straitened saver would accumulate only £8 or £9 in them.

WOOLWORTH

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

- Increased sales, improved stores, wider ranges of merchandise all played their part for Woolworth in 1975.
- Sales increased by 24% and pre-tax profits by over 18%.
- Dividends totalling 3.95p per share are the same as in 1974.
- In 1975 three new stores were opened, four were rebuilt and a further ten were modernised.
- Increased profitability is necessary to continue to improve the financial rewards of our employees, to modernise and extend our stores, to maintain our competitive position for the benefit of customers and shareholders – including many pension funds.
- The future – We shall make every effort to improve our profit performance in 1976; the policy of change will continue.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	Year Ended 31.1.76 £'000	Year Ended 31.1.75 £'000
Total turnover	607,658	489,727
Profit before taxation	36,252	30,649
Earnings per stock unit	4.50p	3.72p
Dividend per stock unit	3.95p	3.95p
Stockholders' funds per stock unit	51p	51p

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 6JL.

ROBECO

ROTTERDAMSCH BELEGGINGSCONSORTIUM N.V.

Robeco N.V., announce a Final Dividend for the year 1975 of 3½% in stock from the Premium Reserve.

OR

at the option of the Shareholder/Sub-shareholder, Fls. 5.20 (Fls. 0.52 per Sub-share) in cash.

When the dividend is taken in stock, holdings represented by Bearer Share Warrants with coupons attached cannot be aggregated with holdings of Registered Sub-shares.

EXCHANGE CONTROL POSITION

The Bank of England have given a general permission for Authorised Depositaries to deal with this distribution, on behalf of beneficial owners who are resident in the Scheduled Territories (the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, the Republic of Ireland and Gibraltar) as follows :—

(1) On the presentation of Coupon No. 70, shares received by shareholders in respect of the dividend must be held by (or, if held abroad, to the order of) a United Kingdom Authorised Depositary subject to the same conditions as the underlying holding. If the option to receive cash in lieu of stock is exercised, the amount received must be treated as a dividend and sold to an Authorised Dealer at the current market rate in the official foreign exchange market.

Cash received after the 30th September 1976 may be treated in the same manner as proceeds emanating from a sale of the underlying holding.

(2) Purchase of Coupons No. 70
Such may be purchased for Sterling in the United Kingdom or with investment currency outside the United Kingdom. Shares acquired by the purchase of additional Coupons —

(a) may, in respect of United Kingdom residents whose underlying holding is regarded as qualifying for transfer in completion of a sale under the permission given in paragraph 37 of the Notice E.C.7, be regarded as so qualifying ;

(b) should, in respect of United Kingdom residents whose underlying holding is held subject to restrictions on disposal, be held subject to the same restrictions—the Bank of England would be prepared to consider applications, submitted through Authorised Depositaries, for the proceeds of sale of portions relating to shares derived from the Coupons purchased with investment currency, to be regarded as eligible for the premium;

(c) Shares acquired by residents of the Scheduled Territories other than the United Kingdom should be held subject to the terms of paragraphs 57-64 of the above mentioned Notice.

(3) Sale of Coupons No. 70

(a) In respect of United Kingdom residents

(i) Where the underlying holding could be transferred in completion of a sale under the permission given in paragraph 37 of the Notice E.C.7, Coupons No. 70 may be sold in the United Kingdom for Sterling or abroad for Foreign Currency provided that the "25% requirement" is met in all cases other than "small bargains" and sales in order to round down to the nearest whole share below. (Paragraph 38b (1) of the Notice E.C.7, as amended, refers) :

(ii) Where the underlying holding is held subject to restrictions on disposal, permission under the Exchange Control Act 1947 is given for Coupons No. 70 to be sold for Foreign Currency, which should be sold to an Authorised Dealer at the current market rate in the official foreign exchange market; the Coupons may not be sold in the United Kingdom for Sterling.

(b) In respect of residents of the Scheduled Territories other than the United Kingdom.

Permission under the Exchange Control Act 1947 is given for Coupons No. 70 to be sold in the United Kingdom for Sterling or abroad for Foreign Currency, where Authorised Depositaries are satisfied that the underlying holding is in the beneficial ownership of such residents, provided that the "25% requirement" is met in all cases other than "small bargains" and sales in order to round down to the nearest whole share below. (Paragraph 58 of the Notice E.C.7, as amended, refers.)

Note :
The above permissions relating to residents of the Scheduled Territories other than the United Kingdom are given without prejudice to any requirements of the local Exchange Control Authorities.

INCOME TAX POSITION

When the dividend is accepted in stock, i.e. 3½%, it is not subject to Netherlands Dividend Tax or United Kingdom Income Tax.

When election is made to take the dividend in cash, i.e. Fls. 5.20 per share (Fls. 0.52 per Sub-share) it is subject to Netherlands Dividend Tax and United Kingdom Income Tax, but reference should be made to the further information given in this notice.

SALE OF COUPONS

It has been ruled that a coupon which entitles a shareholder to participate in an optional cash/stock or stock/cash distribution is a "coupon for foreign dividends" within the meaning of Section 159 (1) Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1970, and the proceeds of the sale or transfer of a coupon, without selling or transferring the underlying security, are accordingly chargeable to income tax under Section 159 (3) (b) Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

BEARER SHARE WARRANTS WITH COUPONS ATTACHED

Authorised Depositaries in the United Kingdom may present coupons to the Company's Paying Agents, National Westminster Bank Limited, Stock Office Services, Marking Names Section, 2nd Floor, 41 Lothbury, London E.C.2, on business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the following basis :—

Payable as from the 5th April 1976.

Holders accepting this dividend in stock will receive new shares, free of payment, on the basis of one new share for each 30 shares held, against Coupon No. 70, presentation of which must be in multiples of 30 shares.

Holders who elect to take the dividend in cash will receive payment in Sterling at the sight buying rate of exchange (less exchange commission), on Amsterdam current at 2 p.m. on the day of lodgement.

After the 30th September 1976, the option ceases and an amount in cash based on the value of the shares as at that date will be made available by the Company.

Residents of Switzerland can apply for an annual refund by submitting a form R-NL 1 to the Eidgenössische Steuerverwaltung Berne, from whom this form can also be obtained.

Residents of Italy can have a full refund by submitting Form 82 IT, certified by their local tax inspectors, to the Inspector of Taxes, Wibaut Straat, 2-4 Amsterdam.

If the coupons presented are accompanied by forms 82 OST., B., CAN., DEN., FIN., FR., D., IER., JA., LUX., NA., NW., SIN., SP., SUR., ZA., ZWE., or VS., for residents of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, The Federal Republic of Germany, The Republic of Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Surinam, South Africa, Sweden, or the United States respectively, Netherlands Dividend Tax amounting to 15%, will be withheld and coupons will be paid at Fls. 4.42 per coupon from warrants for one share and pro rata. Coupons presented on behalf of shareholders who are subject to United Kingdom Income Tax will be subject to Netherlands Dividend Tax at the rate of 15%. Forms 82 VK will not be required. United Kingdom Income Tax will be deducted at 20% on the gross dividend.

In those cases where exemption from Netherlands Dividend Tax is not claimed, such tax at 25% will be deducted and coupons will be paid at Fls. 3.90 per coupon from warrants for one share and pro rata. United Kingdom Income Tax will be deducted at 35% on the net dividend received in the United Kingdom, except where Inland Revenue Affidavits are presented with the coupons. Listing forms may be obtained from the Company's Paying Agents as above.

SUB-SHARE CERTIFICATES IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK (NOMINEES) LIMITED

Claims should be lodged with National Westminster Bank Limited, Stock Office Services, Marking Names Section, 2nd Floor, 41 Lothbury, London, E.C.2, on the appropriate claim form by Authorised Depositaries only, who should mark such payment of the dividend on the back of the certificates. The claims must be clearly marked to show whether the claimant is accepting stock or is electing for the cash option. The "requirements cage" on the claim in respect of certificate denominations must be completed when stock is being accepted

The Record Date will be the 30th March 1976, and the Payment Date 5th April 1976. Holders who accept the dividend in stock will be advised when the new Sub-shares certificates are available against claims. Fractional certificates will not be issued but the certificates for Sub-shares representing fractions will be sold and the net proceeds distributed in the appropriate portions to claimants.

For holders electing to take the dividend in cash (Fls. 0.52) a fixed Sterling rate of exchange will be determined on the Record Date as a basis for payment of the dividend. This will be announced shortly together with the amount of the dividend in Sterling, the amount of the 15% and 25% Netherlands Dividend Tax and the amount of United Kingdom Income Tax, all per Sub-share. The appropriate forms for relief of Netherlands Dividend Tax are given above. United Kingdom residents who elect for the cash option are not required to lodge form 82 VK for the relief of Netherlands Dividend Tax.

When making payments on or after the 5th April 1976 National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited will deduct Exchange and Marking Name Commission together with United Kingdom Income Tax at 20% on the gross dividend except where Inland Revenue Affidavits are lodged with the claim.

After the 30th September 1976, stock only will be available for those Sub-shareholders who have not claimed their entitlement.

31st March 1976.

Commercial and Business Market

Contracts & Tenders

ELETROBRÁS

COELBA CELPE COELCE

CIA. AUXILIAR DE EMPRESAS ELETRICAS BRASILEIRAS

CAEEB

INVITATION TO PROSPECTIVE SUPPLIERS

The Companhia de Eletricidade do Estado da Bahia, The Companhia de Eletricidade de Pernambuco and The Companhia de Eletricidade do Ceará have applied for a Loan from I.B.R.D. (World Bank) to cover part of their respective electrical expansion programs—planned for the years 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979.

These several companies have contracted Companhia Auxiliar de Empresas Elétricas Brasileiras (C.A.E.E.B.) to co-ordinate the application of the Loan funds.

The programs will cover the expansion of the sub-transmission, and distribution systems of the aforementioned companies which will include, but is not limited to, the application of the undermentioned types of equipment and materials :

1—Aluminium conductors
2—Copper conductors
3—Line hardware, crossarms and accessories
4—Insulators
5—Disconnect and power fuse switches
6—Loadbreak switches
7—Capacitors
8—Capacitor switches
9—Station type voltage regulators
10—Distribution type voltage regulators
11—Automatic sectionalizers
12—Reclosers
13—Luminaries and accessories
14—Distribution transformers and power transformers
15—Circuit Breakers
16—Metal-clad switchgear
17—Control and protection switchboards
18—Relays
19—Lightning arresters
20—Test board
21—Watthour meters
22—Battery/battery charger set
23—Grounding systems
24—69kV insulated conductor
25—Metalclad SF6 switchgear
26—Duplex switchboard for SF6 switchgear
27—Laboratory equipment
28—Hotline maintenance equipment
29—Radio communication equipment
30—Trailer and equipment for mobile substation
31—Capacitive potential transformer
32—Air conditioning system
33—Fire protection system
34—Steel structures
35—600V insulated conductors
36—Test and laboratory equipment generally utilized on electric distribution system

Invitations to Bid will be issued by C.A.E.E.B. and are open to any manufacturer or supplier located in any member country of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) or Switzerland. The use of raw, semi-manufactured or manufactured material from a non-member country other than Switzerland will not be permitted.

Suppliers and manufacturers located in any member country of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank) and Switzerland who wish to be included in a mailing list, and to receive the aforementioned invitations to Bid are requested to express their interest in a letter to Companhia Auxiliar de Empresas Elétricas Brasileiras (C.A.E.E.B.) at the office of the Coordenator de Compras in the Avenida Rio Branco, 135-13° Andar Rio de Janeiro—ZC-00, Rio de Janeiro 20.000. Brasil—Post Office Box No. 883.

The letters from prospective suppliers and manufacturers should include the undermentioned information :

(i) A record of experience and past performance in the manufacture of the equipment and material they propose to Bid.
(ii) A resume of the manufacturer's capabilities with respect to personnel, equipment and plant.
(iii) The manufacturer's financial position.
(iv) Catalogues and descriptive literature of the types of material and equipment which the manufacturer proposes to Bid.

These letters will be received up to and including **May 31st, 1976**, and after analysis each approved manufacturer will be included in the mailing list of the bids for those equipments and materials which he has a proven capacity to supply.

Letters and enquiries received after **May 31st, 1976**, will not be considered, and manufacturers or suppliers not duly registered by C.A.E.E.B. by this date, will not be permitted to participate in the bidding.

Business Notices

Office for financing and investment advice with headquarters in Zurich intends to expand its services to cover the sector of goods and raw materials business (options-termin) and is seeking contact with a

BROKER COMPANY

We are interested in an agency for the whole of Switzerland. Please write with proposals and references to Box 1128 ZA, Orell Fussli Werbe AG, CH-8002 Zurich.

ESTABLISHED LONDON PRINTERS

situated in modern single-storey factory with room for expansion, seek company t/o £75,000—£150,000 p.a. with view to purchase. Could be of interest to company facing accommodation problems or proprietor seeking retirement. Please write, Box 0046 P, The Times.

MR. C. A. CANN retires from the Board of Pickford Dawson and Holland Ltd., on 31st March, 1976.

LARGE out of Central London printers with Company reports, prospectuses, financial printing, want link with small, highly efficient printers or trade typesetters in City capable of beautiful, accurate, 24hr. typesetting with fast turnround. Box 0047 P, The Times.

MR. W. WHITEHEAD has been appointed Director of the Board of Pickford Dawson and Holland Ltd., with effect from 31st March, 1976.

Finance & Investment

FULL VACANT POSSESSION of letting house.—See London and Sub. Property.

I HAVE THE CAPITAL, do you have the business idea ? Up to £10,000 available.—Box 0048 P, The Times.

MANUFACTURING COMPANY requires £10,000 on short-term loan, repayable by 12 monthly instalments plus interest. Security offered by way of mortgage on properties. 01-953 0777.

PARTNER required to take over existing debts in North London Record Shop. Would consider selling.—Box 0050 P, The Times.

SUCCESSFUL young Businessman has £10,000 to invest. Interests: entertainment, leisure, printing but would consider other sensible suggestions. Box 0052 P, The Times.

Business Travel

BUSINESS TRAVEL. Contact the experts. P.T. 01-439 7751 (Airline Agents).

EXECUTIVE TRAVEL SERVICE from Dalgety Travel—last ticket delivery. Monthly account facilities. Phone 01-734 8417. ABTA.

Office Equipment

IBM ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS. factory reconditioned and warranted by IBM, hire, sale, up to 30 per cent. Lease 5 yrs. from £2.00 wkly. Rent from £11 per month. Phone Vertex 641 2365.

SHIPTON TELSTOR Automatic Telephone Answering Machine for sale. Tel. Pens (049 481) 2724.

Businesses for Sale

COIN-OPERATED MACHINES on first-class site near Chatham: £2,000.—01-338 0165.

Business Services

LET US TRAIN YOUR STAFF to sell by telephone. Intensive courses given on your own premises.—Phonesales Ltd., 6 Old Bond Street, W1. 01-629 8586.

LIMITED COMPANIES formed. J.P. Co. Reg., 43 Arran Rd., London, S.E.6. 01-698 9985.

REDECORATING or alterations ? Large or small jobs, offices, shops, factories or flats. Work carried out after business hours if required. Free estimates. All areas.—Stuarts, 01-849 4157.

TELEX WORLDWIDE through us. £25 p.a. Late night/w'end. 01-464 7631. Becney Rapid TLX.

COMPANY NOTICES

KING GEORGE'S FUND FOR SAILORS

The Annual General Meeting of the Corporation of King George's Fund for Sailors will be held in the Mansion House, London, on Friday 23rd April at 3.15 p.m.

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor will preside and the Guest Speaker will be Captain Sir David Tibbits, D.S.C., R.N., Deputy Master of Trinity House.

DIVIDEND NOTICES

N.V. ENGELSCH-HOLLANDSCHE BELEGGINGS TRUST
(English and Dutch Investment Trust)
established in Amsterdam
PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES
(issued by Royal Exchange Assurance)

Notice is hereby given that a gross dividend on the Participation Certificates of fls. 4 (four florins) will be payable in Sterling on or after 1st April 1976 against presentation of coupon No. 56.
The dividend will be payable as follows, subject to the provision of the appropriate Netherlands Tax affidavit where necessary,
- to Certificate Holders who are subject to United Kingdom Income Tax, less 15 per cent Netherlands Withholding Tax, and United Kingdom Income Tax at 30 per cent on the gross dividend:
- to residents of other countries with which the Netherlands have concluded tax agreements, under deduction of 15 per cent Netherlands Withholding Tax;
- to residents of all other countries less 25 per cent Netherland Withholding Tax.

Certificate Holders resident outside the United Kingdom will receive payment less United Kingdom Income Tax at the rate of 30 per cent on the net amount unless the coupons are accompanied by a United Kingdom Affidavit or non-residence. The aforementioned rates of tax apply only in respect of coupons presented for payment up to and including 30th September 1976. Thereafter Netherlands Withholding Tax will be deducted at the rate of 25 per cent and the United Kingdom Income Tax where applicable at the rate of 35 per cent from the net Sterling amount.
For the period of 1st April 1976 to 30th September 1976 the dividend will be paid in Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the day of presentation of the coupons. Coupons presented thereafter will be paid in Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the 1st of October 1976.
To obtain payment, coupon no. 56 must be presented by Authorised Depositaries at the office of Hill Samuel & Co. Limited, 45 Beech Street, London EC2P 2LX. Coupons must be listed in duplicate in numerical order on special forms obtainable from Hill Samuel & Co. Limited, and must be left three clear days for examination. Coupons will not be accepted through the post.
ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE
Royal Exchange
London, EC3

UNILEVER LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that registration of transfers of Ordinary Shares in the Company will be suspended for one day only on the 23rd April, 1976, for preparation of dividend warrants payable on the 24th May, 1976. Transfers of Ordinary Shares lodged after the close of business on the 22nd April, 1976, will be registered ex dividend.
By Order of the Board,
H. A. HOLMES,
Secretary.
Port Sunlight,
Wirral, Merseyside.
30th March, 1976.

N.B.
In accordance with the current procedure of the Stock Exchange, London, the 25p Ordinary Shares in Unilever Limited will be quoted ex dividend on the 5th April, 1976. American Shares each representing four 25p Ordinary Shares in Unilever Limited

The Agreement between Irving Trust Company, New York, (IRVING) and National Westminster Bank Limited, London (NATWEST), governing the issue by IRVING of Depositary Receipts for American Shares against the deposit with NATWEST of 25p Ordinary Shares in Unilever Limited provides that if ex dividend shares are tendered for deposit with NATWEST during any period before and including the record date fixed by IRVING for payment of a dividend on the American Shares, NATWEST shall defer acceptance of such shares until after the record date.
The record date fixed for payment of the first instalment of the final dividend in respect of 1975 on the American Shares is the 22nd April, 1976.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 900 of 1976
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of HATCHCLAIR Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 12th day of March 1976 presented to the said Court by Whitbread Fowlers Limited whose Registered Office is situate at Monson Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
And that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on the 12th day of April 1976, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
WATERHOUSE & Co., 4 St. Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8BA.
NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named, notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any), and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 9th day of April 1976.

IN the MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of FREIGHT SHIPPING (INTERNATIONAL) Ltd. (In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants of Guildhall House, 81/87, Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7DS, on Wednesday, the 28th day of April 1976, at 11.45 a.m. to be followed at 12 noon by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidators' Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-Up to date.
Dated this 24th day of March, 1976.
P. PHILLIPS, N.B. CORK,
Joint Liquidators.

No. 00655 of 1976.
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE Chancery Division. Re: NATIONAL CARBONISING COMPANY, Limited and Re: the Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 16th day of March 1976 confirming the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company from £2,046,985 to £391,659 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 19th day of March, 1976.
Dated the 31st day of March 1976.
LINKLATERS & PAINES, Solicitors to the Company.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 8½% REDEEMABLE STOCK 1978/80.

Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited, Registration Department, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 9EU, hereby give notice that in order to prepare the interest due on the 22nd May, 1976, the balance of the several accounts in the above Stock will be struck at the close of business on the 22nd April, 1976, and thereafter will be transferable Ex-Dividend.

ENTERPRISE HOTELS LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the company will be held within the Royal Faculty of Procurators' Hall, 62 St. George's Place, Glasgow, G.1. on Friday, 30th April, 1976, at 12 noon for the purposes of Sections 293, 294 and 295 of The Companies Act, 1948.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
E. N. M. GARDINER,
Director.
135 Wellington Street,
Glasgow, G2 2XE.

No. 25 (Rule 58 (6))
In the Matter of PENANTH FINANCE Limited By Order of the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE dated the 13th day of January, 1976, Mr GRAHAM ORD, of 56 Newhall Street, Birmingham 3, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named COMPANY without a Committee of Inspection.
Dated this 25th day of March, 1976.

IN the Matter of SHANKLIN PIER Limited.
By Order of the Court dated the 27th day of January, 1976 Mr. W. J. EGGINS of 3 London Wall Buildings, London, EC2M 5PP has been APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company with (or without) a Committee of Inspection.
Dated this 15th day of February, 1976.

NOTICE
All Advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Panmure Gordon adds to gloom

Though a string of small buying orders lifted the number of bargains above 7,000 they were not enough to lift the general tone which remained nervous ahead of the result of the Labour leadership ballot.

Many of the leading industrial shares gave up early gains, though in most cases losses were confined to a couple of pence. After going ahead at the start the FT Index soon lost ground and by the close was 2.2 lower, at 404.2, just a shade off the bottom.

An additional dampener was Panmure Gordon's latest edition of *Cyclical Indicators* which points to the uncertainty surrounding the future of both the economy and the market. It says that on present trends the current bull market is unlikely to survive the end of the year and that by then the conflicting demands of the private and public sectors will have become too much for all markets.

The circular concludes that 1977 looks like being the year not to invest in Britain's stock markets.

The impression is that Allied Breweries which has 25.7 per of Trust Houses Forte dating from its unsuccessful takeover bid four years ago has decided to take up its entitlement to the THF £14m rights issue of one for five. It is also likely to buy some at least of the new shares not being subscribed for by Sir Charles Forte and his family. But few in the market are betting on a bid—yet. THF shares rose 1½p to 113½p and Allied rested at 654p.

Government bonds continued to surprise jobbers by the strength they displayed. Long-dated stocks rose by as much as ¾ point, closing at the day's best levels after meeting good demand throughout much of the session.

Medium-dated stocks managed a similarly good advance. Much of the buying appeared to stem from institutions approaching the end of their financial year. Not wishing to have large cash sums shown in the balance sheet, these institutions were looking for bargains in th gilt market.

Among the "blue chips" two stocks to stand out against the trend were Glaxo, which gained 5p to 383p, and Fisons, better by 4p to 367p. Both ICI 394p and Beechams 355p were more typical, losing a penny each, as was Metal Box with a dip of 2p to 271p. The revival of scanner competition fears had EMI suffering and the shares gave up 6p to 257p.

In motors Rolls-Royce lost 3p to 62p, after 60p, on news of a rights issue of more than £4m while persistent talk of a cash call by Lucas, in spite of there not being one with the recent results, had the shares three points off to 223p. The prospect of higher prices for glass helped Pilkington to go ahead 3p to 321p, but further reflection on their German losses left UDS on offer at 80p, a drop of 3p on the day.

After weakness in recent weeks, much of which some think was overdone, the specialist retail operators returned to favour with Wheatsheaf 5p better to 131p, Kwik Save 2p ahead at 118p and Lennons up by 2p to 33p. Commodity and sugar group S. W. Berisford also met with a good deal of demand and rose no less than 6p to 163p, while Booker McConnell went ahead another 5p to 145p after the previous day's figures.

Other sugar shares also provided features with Tate & Lyle firming 2p to 273p and Manbre & Garton four points better at 134p.

In papers W. H. Smith, who are due to report next month, put on 10p to 352p but Bowater, with a statement also due soon, gave up 3p to 199p. On the bid front Wm Reed added 9p to 42p on the strong prospect of a counter offer to the approach of Birmingham & Midland Counties while Reardon Smith ordinary went ahead 8p to 298p on a higher Panamanian stake.

In the financial sector there was a mixed tone among the clearing banks. The best was Midland, up 5p to 278p, with Lloyds improving 2p to 222p, National Westminster unchanged at 235p and Barclays ending three points easier.

After almost three years in suspension Norfolk Capital

Speculation about today's announcement from construction group Tarmac centres on the possible acquisition of Holland, Hannen & Cubitts, the building and civil engineering side of Drake & Cubitt. Profits from this division recovered strongly last year but were marred by serious losses on roads and motorway contracts. Tarmac gained 2p to 184p. It refused to confirm or deny talk.

Hotels fell from 14p to 10p, compared with a suspension price of 53½p. Tootal, where the search is on for a new chief executive, gave up a penny to 39p and in after-hours trading John Michael (Savile Row) almost halved its price to 4p on rumours of difficulties.

Oils shares went easier, notably BP by 3p to 610p. On the golds pitch a weaker bullion price and the call for British military intervention in Rhodesia did nothing for sentiment and there were some biggish losses among the "heavies".

Some of the finance houses were also well down, notably Charter Consolidated, the most active share of the day, which eased 7p to 126p and Consolidated Gold Fields 5p to 155p. Equity turnover on March 30th was £53.67m (17,871 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Charter Consolidated, BP, Fisons new, Slater Walker, ICI, Marks & Spencer, Burmah, Bowater, Rank, Woolworth, Shell, Midland Bank, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, Tom Martin, Pye, Ocean Transport, S. W. Beresford, Rolls-Royce, EMI and GEC.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
American Trust (25p) Fin	0.93	0.93	12/5	1.35	1.35
BBA Group (25p) Fin	1.72	1.63	—	2.59	2.42
Burns-Anderson (10p) Int	0.35	0.31	19/5	—	1.18
Ibstock Johnson (25p) Fin	3	2.08	11/5	5	3.89
Hong Kong Land	19*	18*	4/6	29*	28*
Percy Lane (10p)	1.5	Nil	—	1.5	Nil
Lawtex (25p) Int	Nil	1.26	—	—	2.58
Pye Holdings (25p) Fin	1.67	2.45	28/5	2.9	3.67
Smith & Nephew (10p) Fin	1.31	1.22	18/5	1.96	1.83
Trafford Park (25p) Int	1.4	1.4	30/5	2.96	2.8

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Cents a share.

BBA still confident after a fine 1975

By Anthony Rowley

BBA Group, the Yorkshire-based manufacturer of friction materials and industrial textiles, more than doubled its profits in the second half of last year. This took the total for the year up to £6.27m—a 58 per cent increase over the previous year.

The group proposes a final dividend of 1.72p net an ordinary share, making a total for the year of 2.59p or fractionally under 4p gross. This represents the maximum increase payable. A one for three scrip is also proposed.

BBA, which was reporting profits just 12 per cent up (to £2.71m) at the half way stage last year, says that the second half benefited from improved trading conditions in the world automotive industry. The industrial side continued strong, and loss-making units which had depressed the first half performance were eliminated.

A strong feature last year was the 31 per cent growth in exports to £10.6m out of total sales up 18 per cent at nearly £79m. Thanks to this and a 16.5 per cent increase in overseas companies' sales (to £41.2m) BBA's total sales abroad represented two thirds of the total. Home sales rose 20 per cent to £37.6m.

Earnings a share rose by 73 per cent to 8.58p—covering the net dividend more than three times.

BBA says that group sales in the first two months of 1976 were 18 per cent up on 1975, and that profits this year "are not likely to be less than those of 1975."

Bricks build Ibstock profits

By Adrienne Gleeson

With the housebuilders emerging from a trough of inactivity, demand for bricks has shown a distinct improvement ; and the 1975 results from Ibstock Johnsen reflect that fact. Overall, pre-tax profits have risen from £2.02m to £2.58m, so that the group has more than made up the slight decline of 1974. And the chairman, Mr Paul Hyde-Thomson, is cheerful about the prospects for further improvement in the current year.

Ibstock Johnsen's woodpulp agency business had a difficult time last year, with the effects of reduced demand at home exacerbated by a big strike at the pulp mills in East Canada. So trading profits from this division have dropped from £518,000 to £394,000, while the woodpulp associate turned in £46,000, against £55,000.

However, the downturn here, and the increased impact of interest charges, was more than offset by higher profits in the brick division, where the new Yorkshire factory is now coming right after a slow start. the new Bristol factory has reached break-even, and stocks have been cut back again after a build-up during 1974.

With liquidity at the year-end considerably improved—thanks to receipt in December of the £1.4m proceeds of the rights issue, and to the fact that the group's programme of heavy capital spending has been nearing completion—the board has been able to recommend the maximum permitted increase in the dividend, to 7.69p per share gross.

This, and the prospects of a continuing good performance by the brick division, and of a possible improvement in woodpulp agency towards the end of the year, was sufficient to put the shares up 2p yesterday to 97p.

Aurora clinches key 5 per cent in East Sussex

Aurora Holdings has won its battle for voting control of East Sussex Engineering. Acceptances have been received for Aurora's 30.03p a share cash bid for East Sussex taking its holding to 50.46 per cent.

Aurora held 45.3 per cent of East Sussex's shares before the bid, and so the acceptances so far received cover a crucial 5.16 per cent of the shareholdings, just over 604,000 shares. Aurora's offer has now been made unconditional, and it will be extended until April 13.

East Sussex's directors, led by the chairman and managing director, Mr G. J. Suckling, have been fighting a bitter rearguard action against Aurora's bid, which they regard as "wholly inadequate".

Only yesterday Mr Suckling bought an additional 50,000 East Sussex shares

Woolworth still pushing for market growth

An increase in its sales volume and market share is one of the four major objectives set for F. W. Woolworth this year by Mr Stephen Owen the chairman, in his annual statement. The others are further development of the competitive and quality position of the company, a further improvement in productivity, and a continued recognition of Woolworth's wider corporate responsibilities.

Last years objectives which included an improved profit and maintained dividend were attained, but he does not consider that the present levels of sales and profits reflect the true porential of the company.

The accounts reveal that stock moved faster last year than in the previous 12 months. The stock figure at January 31 was £96.14m related to sales (net of VAT) of £573.4m.

Silentbloc

A bid threat behind the row

Following a distinctly inconclusive public skirmish last week the boards of BTR and Silentbloc have retired to their respective camps, leaving observers largely nonplussed as to what the feud is all about.

In the Silentbloc camp, chairman, Mr Christopher Whitehorn, is still considering his position, following his reelection, which apparently owed more to chance than design.

While at BTR, managing director, Mr Owen Greene, is "waiting for the dust to settle" before attempting to make a decision on the future relationship with Silentbloc, in which BTR now holds a 27 per cent stake.

The row has to be seen against the long history of animosity between the two boards harking back to 1971, when Silentbloc the industrial rubber manufacturers, successfully fended off a bid from the much larger and acquisition-minded BTR general rubber group.

Since then both groups have prospered, with BTR taking an aggressive takeover route and Silentbloc undergoing a mammoth shakeup in response to institutional pressure.

Since 1971, BTR has made no bones about the fact that its holding in Silentbloc could produce another bid eventually. Things came to a head when Silentbloc decided to change its Articles of Association. Mr Whitehorn claims that this was a purely professional measure and that the existing articles dating back forty years were not in keeping with modern times.

BTR and Mr Greene, however, felt the new articles proposed were distinctly out of keeping with modern thinking in that they moved the responsibilities for appointment and removal of directors further away from ordinary shareholders.

Advised by Hill Samuel, BTR voted against the new articles and for good measure threw its weight against Mr Whitehorn, who happened to be the only director coming up for reelection.

Both votes were won but ironically Mr Whitehorn kept his seat under a technicality

Meanwhile, Mr Greene, who claims to have no particular argument with Mr Whitehorn, feels his group have won a victory of principle.

Their case at the annual meeting came in for surprise support from dissident Silentbloc director, Mr Peter Higgins, who claimed that adoption of the new articles would almost certainly lead to his dismissal.

What role Mr Higgins will adopt in the next few months remains to be seen, while BTR might be expected at least to re-iterate old demands for their own director on the Silentbloc board. In view of their interest in the company another take-over attempt cannot be ruled out.

Richard Allen

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Scrip and revaluation from Acrow Group

The board of Acrow Group proposes a one-for-one scrip issue on the "A" shares. This will increase the group's uthorized capital from £9.35m o £20m. A revaluation of group roperties is also planned. They vere in the last accounts at 10.5m.

The largest-ever capital xpenditure programme is nder way, which will modernize ictories, buy plant, mechanical andling equipment and transort. It will cost £5m, financed om internal resources.

Mr Ian Green is joining the oard, from Rockwell International, as group deputy managing director.

uxembourg boost o Percy Lane

Thanks to its Luxembourg peration the Percy Lane Group aluminium window makers as hoisted its 1975 pre-tax rofits from £11,000 to £314,500 n sales of £8.6m, against £5.9m. The United Kingdom comanies made a loss of £42,000 mpared with a profit of 28,000, but the Luxembourg nit managed a 156 per cent se to a profit of £356,000.

Dividend payments are sumed at 1.5p—the last paynt was in 1973. The board ys that the financial position mains strong, with substantial sh and unused borrowing cilities.

American Bk soars

At pre-tax level, profits of estern American Bank urope) for the year to nuary 31 have risen from 86,000 to £1.49m and the t profit is 140 per cent up £306,000. In line with most her major banks the group did t seek to increase its asset owth and total assets are 37.8m, against £135.02m.

pirella optimism

The healthy cash position, ntinuing buoyant demand for usehold textiles and further t savings from the merger h Vantona still to work ough are the main points in annual report from Spirella. he first three months' ding in the current year has seen a good level of activity and chairman Mr James Spooner expects a "significant increase in profits" in the year to the end of November, 1976.

To reflect the new look of the enlarged company it is proposed that the name be changed to Vantona Group.

New bid talks lift Wm Reed

Talk of a counter bid for the Leeds-based man-made fibres group William Reed pushed the shares up 10p to 42½p. Birmingham & Midland Counties Trust—which now holds nearly 42 per cent of the equity—made an offer on Monday of 33p a share cash for the rest.

The Reed board says that the offer does not "adequately reflect group prospects" and that "active discussions" are under way which could lead to an alternative bid for the company.

Meanwhile, shareholders are advised to take no action.

Birmingham & Midland—a subsidiary of Dowgate & General Investments—bought a further 10,000 shares this week.

Shares reshuffle at E. Chalmers

The board of E. Chalmers, the Glasgow-based metals group, is changing to reflect the sale of a major share block. Downiebrae Holdings has bought a further 414,000 shares, taking its stake to 596,000 (19.1 per cent).

The deal was arranged by merchant banker McNeill Pearson, which has also placed a further 11 per cent. This follows the decision of Ronde Klip of Holland to sell its 24.3 per cent holding—acquired in December.

Mr A. McFadden and Mr W. Peacock of Downiebrae have joined the Chalmers board and Mr McFadden will replace Mr Howard — a Ronde Klip appointee—as chairman.

Ferro Metal setback

Over the 15 months to December 31, pre-tax profits of Ferro Metal & Chemical Corporation reached £356,500, against £782,000 for the year to September 30 on turnover of £18.8m, against £11.8m. Earnings a share come out at 7.8p, against 20p, and shareholders will receive a dividend of 7.08p gross compared with 5.48p. Current trading shows an improvement over 1975.

A sale of the main assets and undertakings of loss-making Bright Alloys subsidiary has brought in £156,000.

Savoy back in profit for full year

The Savoy Hotels Group, which takes in Claridge's and the Connaught as well as the Savoy itself, has returned to profits after its disappointing first-half performance.

The group made a profit before tax of £52,000 for 1975 as a whole, compared with a loss of £68,000 in 1974. At the halfway stage the directors reported a pre-tax deficit of £359,000.

This year, much will depend on greater economic confidence in Britain and on there being no further decline in the number of American visitors to London.

Coltness Group

The second half of 1975 saw an all-round improvement at Coltness Group. It left pre-tax profits at £596,000, against £401,000 on a turnover of £6.7m, against £5.6m. The dividend rises from 2.07p gross to 2.28p.

Artagen quibble

Artagen Properties, the industrial and commercial development group, has crossed swords with its auditors over the treatment of tax relief on overseas developments.

In the 1975 accounts Price Waterhouse "do not concur in the company's practice of accounting for tax relief relating to capitalized holding costs on overseas properties . . . and consider that the relief should be deducted from the cost of properties".

Treating the relief as the auditors wished would have clipped a further £196,000 from this year's pre-tax profits.

The accounts also show a £12.7m write down in the value of properties to £58.7m which, with development properties, gives the overall portfolio a value of £64.3m, and a net asset a share figure of 76½p. Yesterday Artagen's shares closed at 68p.

No interim by Lawtex

On turnover up from £2.9m to £3m Lawtex, the clothing and umbrellas group, saw its pre-tax profits for the six months to end-December fall from £97,000 to £13,000 and is not declaring a dividend against 1.94p gross. The shares fell 7p to 23p on the news.

The general depression in the textile and clothing industry led to the poor result, and overproduction in the industry squeezed margins. Demand is now picking up.

Barlow Rand—Northern Lime

The results of the meeting to consider the scheme of arrangement between Northern Lime and the fully paid members of Northern Lime other than Barlows, its subsidiaries and their respective nominees ("scheme members") have been issued.

On March 17, 1976, at the meeting of scheme members of Northern Lime convened in terms of an Order of the Supreme Court of South Africa (Witwatersrand Local Division) to consider the scheme, 68 members present in person or represented by proxy holding 835,154 fully paid ordinary shares voted in favour of the scheme.

All conditions relating to the scheme have now been fulfilled and the scheme becomes effective March 29.

Hongkong Land

Hongkong Land's profits for 1975 were £18.3m—up from £17.6m for 1974. The company declared dividends for the year of 3.07p against 2.96p. The directors said that the nature of the group's main business involved long-term property investment, and last year progress was made on several new developments which would ensure future growth potential.

Briefly

BHF BANK TO RAISE DIVIDEND
Berliner Handels Und Frankfurter Bank plans to increase its 1975 dividend to DM10 per DM50 share from DM9 for 1974. Dividend-entitled capital amounts to a nominal DM87.4m. The bank plans to use DM6m of 1975 profit to increase reserves.

AE AND CI OPTIMISTIC
A further increase in AE and CI profits expected for the current year, Mr H. F. Oppenheimer, the chairman, states. Prospects for 1976, he said, must be considered against background of the anti-inflation manifesto.

AMERICAN TRUST
Final 0.93p a share net or 1.43p gross making 1.35p net again or 2.07p gross.

ANGLO ARGENTINE TRAM
In accordance with scheme of arrangement in 1967 a further payment will be made to first debenture stockholders on July 1 of 4½ per cent of which 4 per cent will bear tax.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH CARBIDE
Resolution to wind up company was passed and Mr C. Morris of Messrs Touche Ross appointed liquidator.

JEVONS COOPER
Company is again to start paying dividends for year to October 31. It plans an interim of 12½ per cent on October 1 and a 17 per cent final on April 1, 1977. The Treasury has agreed.

SHARE STAKE
Delyn says that MY Dart has raised its holding in company and now holds 10.02 per cent of shares.

BURNS-ANDERSON
Interim 0.35p or 0.54p gross (0.48p gross) for half year to December 31, pre-tax profit £202,194 (£224,800). Turnover £6.38m (£5.53m).

EID-PARRY
Dividend 12 per cent subject to Indian tax. Immediate payment of 4 per cent on May 7 and deferred payment of 8 per cent of which half payable July 6 and the rest on July 6, 1977, with interest at 8 per cent a year. Pre-tax profit for period to December 31 £1.1m.

BERRY TRUST
No interim but board expects that div of 2.5 per cent will be paid next December for year to August 31 (same). Half year's pre-tax profit £17,484 (£116,948). Net asset value 57.25p (47p) assuming loan stock conversion.

TRAFFORD PARK ESTATES
Interim 1.4p (same) net or 2.16p gross. For half year to December 31 last pre-tax profit £271,521 (£288,766).

TRIPLEVEST
Final 1.645p net or 2.5p gross making 3.536p net or 5.45p gross (5.56p). For year to February 28 £1.37m (£1.32m). Net asset value a capital share 221½p (127½p).

PIFCO HOLDINGS
Interim 0.693p net equal to 1.066p (0.97p gross). For half-year to October 31 last pre-tax profit £401,500 (£415,600). Co suffered from heavier VAT on electrical goods.

BELL CANADA
Bell Canada plans to issue $200m of 8.75 per cent debentures in the United States at an offer price of 99.25 per cent. Proceeds will be used mainly to expand and improve the company's telecommunications system.

MITSUBISHI CHEM INDUSTRIES
Net profit 4,279m yen for year to January 31 (9,651m yen). Gross sales, 588,803m (533,791m). Dividend 5 yen a share (same).

INVERESK GROUP
Mr T. S. Corrigan, chairman, reports that customers' stocks have now been substantially reduced and demand for packaging and converted products is showing improvement. A sustained increase in general demand was unlikely during first half this year.

Hse of Sears 'ginger'

A group of shareholders controlling over 25 per cent of the House of Sears (Holdings) leisure garments group has requisitioned an extraordinary *general meeting for April 20* to vote on the appointment of Mr Peter Atterbury and Mrs Irene Atterbury as directors. Mr and Mrs Atterbury are in the suede and leather garment business, which, the requisitionists claim, should benefit Sears.

Allen Harvey & Ross

Mr M. Allsopp, chairman of Allen Harvey & Ross, the London discount house, says that the group played an increasing role in expanding the market for *Treasury Bills. The downward* course of interest rates has produced capital profits to compensate for the lack of running profits.

By sticking with the Bond Market, the group was in a position to profit from the recovery from the beginning.

ICI apart, IMI is 94pc taken

ICI has taken up its allotment of 29m shares under the recent rights issue by Imperial Metal Industries and other shareholders took up 16.2m shares (94 per cent) of the 17.2m shares provisionally allotted to them. The balance of 1m shares has been sold through the market in the usual way.

GLC and L'pool borrow in yearlings

With the yearling interest rate still at 10¼ per cent, the Greater London Council and City of Liverpool are each borrowing £2.5m this week. Other major borrowers are Cardiff (£2m) and Vale of White Horse (£750,000). An 18-month bond at 10¾ per cent for Cheltenham will raise £500,000.

Cockerill borrowing

Liège, March 25.—SA Cockerill-Ougree-Providence et Esperance-Longdoz is expected to resort to public and private sector borrowing following the company's 1975 net loss of 3,944m francs (profit 743m), sources close to the company said.

Issues & Loans

The sources noted that but for the sale of Cockerill's 21.97 per cent stake in Sidmar SA to Acieries Reunies de Burbach-Eich-Dudelange SA (Arbed) of Luxembourg for around 3,000m francs, the losses would have been far greater.—Reuter.

PAN AMERICAN
Board has filed for a proposed exchange. New convertible subordinated debentures due 1996 for the $155.6m of its outstanding 4½ per cent debentures due 1986.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

$ STRAIGHTS	Bid	Offer
AIDC 10¼ 1981	105¾	106¾
Air France 9½ 1982	103¾	104¾
Airlease 8¾ 1988	91	93
ARDB 9¼ 1980	101⅞	102½
Ashland 8 1987	95	96
Barclays Bk 9¼ 1982	101½	102½
BFCE 9 1982	102½	103½
Broken Hill Prp 9½ 1981	103½	104½
Brit Steel Corp 8¾ 1989	88	90
Burlington 7¾ 1987	92¾	93¾
Carrier 8 1987	92¼	93¼
CECA 8¾ 1992	100½	101½
Chevron 7 1980	99	100½
Conoco 7 1980	99	100½
Conoco 8 1986	99¾	100¾
Cons Food 7¾ 1991	99¾	100¼
CSR 9½ 1980	101½	102½
Curacao Tokyo 8¾ 1988	94¼	95¼
Curacao Tokyo 10¼ 1981	102½	103½
Cutler Hammer 8 1987	95¾	96¾
Dana 8 1987	95	96
Denmark Kgdm 7½ 1990	88	89
DSM 9¼ 1980	103¾	104¾
EIB 9 1980	101¾	102¾
EIB 9½ 1985	102½	103½
Escom 9¾ 1989	87½	89½
Escom 10¼ 1983	95½	97
Escom Fltg Rate 1982	95	96
First Chicago 7 1980	96¾	97¾
GATX 8¼ 1987	95¼	96¼
Gould 9¼ 1983	103½	103½
Guardian Royal 8 1987	82½	85½
Gulf and Westn 9¼ 1980	103½	104½
ICI 7½ 1992	87	90
Internat Util 8¼ 1982	98¾	99¾
Motorola 8 1987	96¾	97¾
National Coal Board 8¾ 1989	87½	90½
New Zealand 9 1980	102½	103½
New Zealand 9¼ 1982	102¾	103¾
Nippon Fudosan 10¼ 1980	105	101½
Nippon Steel 9½ 1980	102¼	103¼
N A Rockwell 8¼ 1987	95	96
Occidental 10 1981	101½	100½
Ontario Hydro 9 1980	103½	104½
Pacific Lighting 8 1988	95½	96½
Pacific Lighting 9¾ 1981	101	102
Pennwalt 8 1987	96¾	97¾
Ralston Purina 7½ 1987	95¾	96¾
Scanraff 7½ 1990	92½	93½
Scanraff 8¾ 1988	98½	99½
Shell 7½ 1987	97½	98
Singer 11 1977	101¾	105
Skandinaviska 10¼ 1981	106	107
Standard Oil 8¾ 1980	103½	104½
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988	100¾	101¾
Standard Oil 8½ 1988	102	103
Statsforetag 9¼ 1980	101½	102½
Sybron 8 1987	95¼	96¼

	Bid	Offer
Tenneco 7¾ 1987	91½	92½
Textron 7½ 1987	90½	91½
Transocean Gulf 7½ 1980	95¼	96¼
Union Oil 7½ 1987	99½	100½
Williams & Glyns 8¼ 1987	98	91
DM BONDS		
CFP 8½ 1985	104¾	105¾
Denmark 9¼ 1989	105	106
CI 8½ 1982	102¾	103¾
Mexico 9 1982	103¾	104¾
National Westminster 8 1984	99	100
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8½ 1982	103¾	104¾
Sun Int Fin 7½ 1988	97	98
$ CONVERTIBLES	**Bid**	**Offer**
AMF 5 1987	72	74
American Express 4¼ 1987	78	80
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1992	94	96
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	107	109
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1993	98	100
Borden 5 1992	94	96
Borden 6¾ 1991	103	107
Broadway Hale 4¾ 1987	77	79
Carnation 4 1988	81	83
Chevron 5 1992	107	109
Cummins 6¾ 1986	87	89
Dart 4¾ 1987	88	90
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	122	124
Economic Labs 4¾ 1987	80	82
Federated Dept Stores 4¾ 1985	139	141
Ford 5 1988	87	89
Ford 6 1986	98	100
Gillette 4¾ 1987	82	84
Gould 5 1987	89	91
General Electric 4¼ 1987	84	86
Gulf and Western 5 1988	100	102
Harris 5 1987	83	85
Honeywell 6 1986	82	84
ITT 4½ 1987	77½	79½
J. Ray McDermott 4¾ 1987	126	128
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 1987	118	120
Nabisco 5¼ 1988	91	93
Owens Illinois 4½ 1987	101	103
J. C. Penney 4½ 1987	87	89
Revlon 4¾ 1987	101½	103½
Rank Org 4½ 1993	47	49
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	98	100
Squibb 4¼ 1987	80	82
Texaco 4½ 1988	78	80
Union Carbide 4¾ 1982	126	128
Warner Lambert 4¼ 1987	92	94
Xerox Corp 5 1988	75	77

DM equals Deutschmark issue.
Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Usinor goes £136m into red: no payout

Union Siderurgique du Nord de L'est de La France inor), a major French steel ducer and a subsidiary the Denain Group, has inred a 1975 loss of 1,224m ncs (£136m), compared with profit of 163.6m francs for 4.

The company will pass a idend payout this year. Last it paid 7.40 francs. The it was obtained, the company tes, after making depreciam allowances and other prolons of 456.5f francs.

Podain loss feared

Poclain SA, one of France's ding manufacturers of conuction equipment, expects to w a net 1975 loss slightly ow 120m francs (about £13m) (11.9m fancs), company sources said.

No official company comment was available.

Overseas

Metal Box Malaysia

Singapore, March 30.—Metal Box of Malaysia will submit its reconstruction into separate Malaysian and Singapore units to shareholders on April 28. The company has indicated to the Malaysian authorities its willingness, subject to shareholders' approval, to make available to approved Bumiputra interests about 2.4 million new shares (15 per cent) in the Malaysian unit, Metal Box Bhd, at a price of one ringgit a share.

ELECTROLUX
Stockholm. — Electrolux AB of Sweden announced its French subsidiary will acquire 60 per cent *of the shares of the French* vacuum cleaner firm Techniques et Organisations Nouvelles d'Applications Domestiques SA (Tornado).—Reuter.

PATINO NV
Co to sell 90 per cent of Cofremmi to French Government's wholly owned agency Bureau de Recherches Geologiques et Minieres. As compensation Patino to get 10 per cent shareholding in Cofremmi, $9m in cash, and royalty and profit participation for a minimum of $7.8m.

THE UNITED STATES DEBENTURE CORPORATION LIMITED

Year Ended 31st January, 1976.

Extracts from the Directors' Report.

During our financial year ended 31st January, 1976 it became apparent that America was leading the Western economies out of the world trade recession. American economic indicators improved and interest rates there showed a marked abatement together with a decrease in the inflation rate. In turn, these better American conditions are working through to other free world economies, including that of the United Kingdom.

As a result, we are able to report that, in contrast to the previous year, stock markets both in America and in the United Kingdom, our two principal areas of investment, demonstrated a substantial recovery from their previous depressed levels.

In the United Kingdom, the Financial Times All-Share Index advanced strongly by 69.0 per cent.: whilst in America, the Dow Jones Industrial Index gained 38.6 per cent.

The beneficial effect of these rises caused the assets attributable to our Ordinary stockholders to grow by 64.4 per cent.

At the end of the year, 54.5 per cent. of our total assets were represented by United Kingdom investments and 42.5 per cent. by North American shareholdings. These percentages compare with the respective figures for the previous year of 50.1 per cent. and 47.2 per cent. These percentage changes are largely due to the stronger performance of the United Kingdom stock market relative to those of North America.

Revenue before tax grew by 8 per cent. but it was of course impossible, through any conventional investment medium, to show a real return on assets to match the appalling rate of U.K. inflation which, as measured by the Retail Price Index, grew by 23.4 per cent. during the year. However, towards the end of the year, there was definite evidence that this rate of inflation was slowing down. Despite the eroding effects of inflation, particularly on the income from our U.K. investments, and despite the continuance of dividend restraint, we are pleased to recommend that the net dividend be increased by 9.9 per cent. and we estimate that this distribution should be adequately covered by the income of the current year ending 31st January, 1977. This dividend increase has proved possible because of our constant attention to adequate investment yield and also to the overseas content of our portfolio which is free from dividend restraint. With regard to our dividend record, we would point out that the net rate of dividend paid to our Ordinary stockholders has risen by some 68 per cent. since 1971.

Main Features	1976	1975
Gross Revenue	£2,243,478	£2,074,374
Ordinary 25p Stock Unit		
Earnings—Basic	2.84p	2.68p
Earnings—Fully diluted	2.77p	2.63p
Dividend	2.66p	2.42p
Revenue Retained	£70,961	£105,622
Net Assets	£49,885,056	£32,906,092
Net Asset Value per Ordinary 25p Stock Unit		
Basic	108.3p	65.8p
Fully diluted	106.6p	68.3p

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 5th May, 1976 in London.

Business appointments

New chief executive at Grampian

Mr William Hughes, chief executive of MSJ Securities, is to succeed Mr Lewis Robertson as chief executive of Grampian Holdings. Mr Hughes will join Grampian shortly. Mr Robertson is to be deputy chairman and chief executive of the Scottish Development Agency.

Mr W. Ian Green has joined the board of Acrow as group deputy managing director from May 1. He comes to the group from Rockwell International.

Mr E. E. Gamble has retired and Mr J. B. Anderson and Mr H. Cowan have joined the board of Scottish and Universal Investments.

Mr A. L. Mudaliar has been made chairman of the ICI group of companies in India. He succeeds Mr D. G. Owen, who is retiring.

Sir Richard Dobson is to continue as a director of Molins in a personal capacity, following his retirement as chairman of British-American Tobacco. Mr Patrick Sheehy, a director of BATs, and chairman of its tobacco division, has been made a director of Molins.

Mr Frederick G. Larkin Jr is to become chairman of Western American Bank (Europe), succeeding Mr Jocelyn Hambro.

Mr Ken Nash, the Post Office's director of central finance and accounting, is to be appointed director of telecommunications finance in June on the retirement of Mr Alfred Levell.

Mr Donald Lunn becomes financial director of Austin Beech. Mr Royston Oldfield has been appointed works director.

Mr George Smedley has retired as chairman of Ind Coope, Ansells, Joshua Tetley and Ind Coope (Scotland) and is succeeded by Dr Bernard Kilkenny, chairman of Allied Breweries (UK).

In a management restructuring Turner & Newall has appointed three new divisional chief executives. They are Mr F. E. Mills, who will be responsible for plastics and industrial materials, Mr D. W. Hills, responsible for construction materials and Mr B. G. Hill, responsible for automotive components. Managing director Mr C. W. Newton will be in charge of the mining and distribution of asbestos. Mr M. A. Bell becomes finance director. Mr H. D. S. Hardie is to be personnel and external relations director.

Mr E. W. Aldridge, Mr L. I. C. Brown, Mr J. N. Dowlen, Mr S. D. P. Hickman, Mr E. Lawrence, Mr J. A. Leslie, Mr E. L. Pearmine, Mr R. Vaughan and Mr P. Waghorn have been made assistant directors of Leslie & Godwin International.

Sir Derek Greenaway is retiring as chairman of Daniel Greenaway & Sons and becomes president. Mr Alan Greenaway succeeds him as chairman and Mr William Forgie is appointed vice-chairman. Mr J. Gossman, Mr H. W. Laughland and Mr J. B. Anderson have joined the board.

1975 Annual Report Canadian Pacific Limited

Highlights: Consolidated net income of the Company in 1975 amounted to $174.9 million, or $2.40 per Ordinary share, compared with restated $194.4 million, or $2.67 per share, in 1974. In 1975 the Company changed its accounting from the cash to the accrual basis for compensation paid CP Rail for passenger service and branch line losses under the National Transportation Act. This change was made because earlier uncertainties and limitations affecting determination and payment of the losses have now been resolved. Results of CP Rail for the years 1970 to 1974 have been restated to give retroactive effect to the change.

Dividends of 84.5¢ on the Ordinary shares compare with 86¢ in 1974. Of the 1975 dividends, 43¢ per share was the proceeds of dividends from Canadian Pacific Investments Limited, the same as in 1974, while 1.5¢ per share was the proceeds of dividends from Canadian Pacific Air Lines, Limited, compared with 3¢ per share in the prior year.

The natural resource and other activities of Canadian Pacific Investments Limited provided 69% of the year's net income, and transportation, telecommunications and miscellaneous income the balance.

The lower earnings of rail, air and ships were a reflection primarily of depressed economic conditions and continuing escalation of costs. Other factors also played some part. Chief among these were strikes in the Canadian pulp and paper and asbestos industries, port strikes on the B.C. Coast, on the St. Lawrence River and in the United Kingdom, and the continuing large world surplus of oil carrying vessels.

Further growth in income from CP Investments Limited was attributable mainly to oil and gas, coal mining, and real estate activities and the consolidation for a full year of results of The Algoma Steel Corporation, Limited. PanCanadian Petroleum benefited from higher prices for natural gas and oil, and increased production from Fording Coal was marketed at higher prices. Marathon Realty expanded its earnings base and increased returns from existing properties. In contrast, Cominco had lower income, mainly due to softened markets for lead and zinc. Pacific Logging suffered a loss because of poor demand for logs and lumber, labour disruptions and severe weather. Operations of Great Lakes Paper were closed down early in September by a strike which was not settled until February 1976. Weakened markets *for steel and delays and difficulties experienced with* new facilities adversely affected the results of Algoma Steel. Investment income declined mainly because of a write-off of expenditures incurred during CPI's participation in groups planning gas pipelines from the Arctic and a reduction in dividend income from the investment portfolio.

Significant developmental activity during the year included a vigorous exploration program by PanCanadian Petroleum, progress by Cominco in bringing new mines into production and in constructing an ammonia-urea complex, expansion by CP Hotels in the international field, completion by Algoma Steel of new facilities and continuation of work on the final phase of Great Lakes Paper's plant expansion. Pursuant to an offer it made early in 1976, CP Investments purchased 5,454,275 common shares, equal to 67.6% of the outstanding stock, of Steep Rock Iron Mines Limited. In addition to the mine it is now operating, Steep Rock owns a property in the Lake St. Joseph area of northern Ontario, which property it is seeking to bring into production.

Canadian Pacific Limited

Summarized Statement of Income	1975	1974	Increase or (decrease)
	(in millions)		
Net income from:			
CP Rail	**$ 31.7**	$ 44.6	$(12.9)
CP Trucks	**2.9**	(0.1)	3.0
CP Telecommunications	**1.4**	0.7	0.7
CP Air	**(6.4)**	2.5	(8.9)
CP Ships	**14.6**	18.6	(4.0)
Miscellaneous	**4.2**	1.8	2.4
CP Investments Limited	**120.6**	114.2	6.4
Equity in income of subsidiary not consolidated	**5.9**	7.8	(1.9)
Income before extraordinary items	**174.9**	190.1	(15.2)
Extraordinary items	**—**	4.3	(4.3)
Net income	**$174.9**	$194.4	$(19.5)
Per Ordinary share:			
Income before extraordinary items	**$2.40**	$2.61	$(0.21)
Net income	**2.40**	2.67	(0.27)
Dividends	**0.845**	0.86	(0.015)

CP Investments Limited

Summarized Statement of Net Income	1975	1974	Increase or (decrease)
	(in millions)		
Oil and gas	**$ 59.8**	$ 40.3	$ 19.5
Mines and minerals	**53.8**	48.7	5.1
Forest products	**1.8**	12.0	(10.2)
Iron and steel	**21.8**	14.2	7.6
Real estate	**7.7**	5.6	2.1
Hotels and food services	**3.3**	4.5	(1.2)
Finance	**1.4**	0.8	0.6
Other operations	**(0.4)**	—	(0.4)
Investment income	**(7.2)**	4.5	(11.7)
	142.0	130.6	11.4
Interest of outside CPI shareholders	**21.4**	16.4	5.0
Net income to CP Limited	**$120.6**	$114.2	$ 6.4

There is widespread agreement that the performance of the Canadian economy and the economies of Canada's trading partners will improve in 1976. There is also virtual unanimity that while the rate of inflation may decline, inflation will continue to be a major threat to economic stability. In Canada, the effectiveness of the Government's anti-inflation program is still to be tested. Despite the handicaps it imposes on business, the business community is supporting the program in the hope that it may encourage greater realism in the demands that are made on the economy.

As in 1975, the most favourable prospects for growth of the Company's income are in the activities of the CP Investments group. Earnings from oil and gas and from real estate are expected to increase, and there should be recovery in the forest products group. While the outlook may improve later in the year, at present it appears that steel, base metals and fertilizers will do well to match their 1975 performance. If the forecasts of moderate economic growth are realized, all the transportation operations except ships should do better.

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Deputy Secretary, 8 Waterloo Place, London, SW1Y 4AO.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9½%
First London Secs	9½%
C. Hoare & Co. ..	*9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster ..	9½%
Rossminster ACC's	9½%
Shenley Trust	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 5½%, up to £25,000, 6¼%, over £25,000, 6¾%.

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British Monomarks (established 1925)

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
62-63 Threadneedle Street. London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
46	25	Armitage & Rhodes	36	+2	3.0	8.3	9.5
106	94	Deborah Services	106	—	7.5	7.1	5.6
150	115	Henry Sykes	147	+2	4.9	3.4	9.8
36	18	Twinlock Ord	21	+1	0.9	4.4	5.2
67	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	67	—	12.0	17.9	—
63	48	Unilock Holdings	63	+2	4.5	7.1	12.2

Wankie Colliery Company Limited

(Incorporated in Rhodesia)

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

COAL PRICE AGREEMENT

The Discussions with Government on a new form of agreement to replace the existing agreement which is due to expire in 1978, have reached finality and the heads of an agreement have been accepted in principle by Government and your Board. The new agreement will apply to both coal and coke in Rhodesia from the 1st September, 1975.

The Government's offer is based on the concept that the Company should be allowed a return of 12½ per cent on the capital employed in its business. For purposes of the new agreement capital employed is defined as the net book value of the fixed assets at the beginning of the financial year in question plus the value of stores and the value of coke stocks at that date.

In the current year, however, the allowable profit on Rhodesian sales will be restricted to a maximum of $2,500,000. Should the profits exceed this amount any excess will be set aside to cushion prices in the following year. The pre-tax profit entitlement on Rhodesian sales will be increased to 10 per cent of capital employed in 1976-77. Thereafter the full entitlement of 12½ per cent will apply. It has been agreed that when the Company has to pay income tax on profits included in the definition of a fair return, the return will be increased by the amount of income tax paid to a maximum of 15 per cent to take some account of the tax payable.

Prices of coal and coke will remain unchanged until the next pricing review towards the end of the year.

Any profits which the Company may make from the sale of its products outside Rhodesia are distinguished from and treated differently to profits on its Rhodesian sales.

The company will be entitled to all profits which arise from exports until 31st August. 1977. From 1st September, 1977 onwards there will be a restriction on retained profits on exports, as a result of which the Company will be entitled to retain a maximum profit of 5 per cent on the capital employed as defined. Any excess earned will be used to reduce local coal and coke prices.

All investment income accrues to the Company and is not taken into account in determining the profit entitlement.

In the current circumstances it is expected that the arrangement will allow sufficient profit for the retention of funds for the anticipated capital expenditure and an acceptable distribution to shareholders.

DIVIDEND NO. 103

The Directors today declared an interim dividend No. 103 in respect of the year ending 31st August, 1976 of 2½ cents per share, payable to shareholders registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 15th April, 1976. Dividend warrants will be posted on or about 17th May, 1976. The transfer registers in Rhodesia, the United Kingdom and South Africa will be closed from 16th to 23rd April, 1976 inclusive.

Rhodesian non-resident shareholders tax at the rate of 15 per cent will be deducted from the dividend where applicable.

This dividend compares with the interim payment of 3 cents which was paid the previous year on the issued capital of 12 666 744 shares then in issue and is equivalent to 1.5 cents on the present issued share capital. Estimated results for the half year ended 29th February, 1976, with comparative figures for the year ended 31st August, 1975 are as follows:

	Half year ended 29th February, 1976	Year ended 31st August, 1975
SALES (tonnes)		
Coal	1 434 457	2 493 108
Coke	86 938	290 076
	$	$
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS		
Trading profit from coal, coke and by-products and sundry revenue	1 917 000	2 614 000
Interest and dividends receivable less debenture interest and other charges	120 000	136 000
Profit	2 037 000	2 750 000
Deferred taxation	564 000	673 000
Profit after Taxation	1 473 000	2 077 000
Interim dividend	633 000 (2½ cents per share)	380 000 (1½ cents per share)

Under the new coal price agreement the profits on Rhodesian sales for this year will be restricted to a maximum of $2 500 000. The profits for the six months are below one half of this figure.

The dividend is declared in the currency of Rhodesia. Payments from South Africa will be made in the South African equivalent of the Rhodesian value at the rate of exchange ruling at the close of business on 7th May, 1976.

In terms of exchange control regulations, dividends due to members who are resident in the United Kingdom, Zambia or Tanzania, must be paid into a blocked account in the shareholder's name with a registered commercial bank in Rhodesia.

Arrangements are being made for members normally paid from the United Kingdom and who are not resident in the United Kingdom or Zambia to be paid their dividend from Rhodesia.

By order of the Board
For and on behalf of
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
London Secretaries
D. H. J. Pattison

London Office:
40, Holborn Viaduct,
EC1P 1AJ.

Office of the United Kingdom Transfer Secretaries:
Charter Consolidated Limited,
P.O. Box 102, Charter House,
Park Street,
Ashford, Kent, TN24 8EQ.

30th March, 1976.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £700-01 a metric ton; three months, £721-22. Sales, 8,425 tons. Cash cathodes, £690-92; three months, £710.50-12.50. Sales, 75 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £691.50-92.00; three months, £712.50-13.00. Settlement, £692. Sales, 5,400 tons (about half carries). Cash cathodes, £683-84; three months, £703.50-04.50. Settlement, £684. Sales, 150 tons.

SILVER was steady and featureless.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 210.50p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 402.9); three months, 215.20p (407.2c); six months, 220p (412.2c); one-year, 235.20p (434.1c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 211.5-212p; three months, 216.1-16.2p; seven months, 222.5-223p. Sales, 66 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 210.4-10.5p; three months, 214.8-14.9p; seven months, 221.5-22.0p. Settlement, 210.5p. Sales, 44 lots.

TIN.—Standard cash was £14 down on Monday and three months was £7 lower.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,640-45 a metric ton; three months, £3,655-60. Sales, 275 tons. High-grade, cash, £3,670-75; three months, £3,680-90. Sales, 40 tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,615-20; three months, £3,630-31. Settlement, £3,620. Sales, 335 tons. High-grade, cash, £3,625-30; three months, £3,640-55. Settlement, £3,630. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M1,072 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £199-200 a metric ton; three months, £206.75-07. Sales, 700 tons. Morning.—Cash, £197-97.50; three months, £204.50-05.00. Settlement, £197.50. Sales, 6,525 tons.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £392-93 a metric ton; three months, £401.50-01.75. Sales, 3,075 tons. Morning.—Cash, £377-77.50; three months, £390-90.50. Settlement, £377.50. Sales, 3,625 tons (mainly carries). Producers' price, $725 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was up 25p at £71.10 ($136.25) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was easier.—May, 45-45.50p per kilo; June, 45.10-45.90p; July-Sept, 45.50-45.60p; Oct-Dec, 47.60-47.65p; Jan-March, 47.55-47.60p; April-June, 51.20-51.50p; July-Sept, 52.55-52.90p; Oct-Dec, 53.25-54.00p; Jan-March, 55.50-55.00p. Sales, 6 lots of 5 tonnes; 245 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet.—Spot, 42.50-44.50. Cifs; May, 42.00-43.50; June, 43.00-43.25.

COFFEE: Robustas advanced sharply, spot March putting on £17.50 to £958 and May advancing £15 to £958.50, both new highs.—ROBUSTAS.—March, £947-960 per metric ton; May, £958-959; July, £967-969; Sept, £980-981; Nov, £986-988; Jan, £992-994; March £995-997. Sales: 2,899 lots, including 210 options.

ARABICAS were dull.—April $117 per 50 kilos; June $117-120; Aug, $118.25-20.00; Oct, $117.60-18.00; Dec, $118-18.50; Feb, $117.50-18.00; April, $117-120. Sales: 4 lots.

COCOA: Spot March fell £21 and May was down £10.—March, £811-12 per metric ton; May, £800.50-01; July, £790.50-81; Sept, £737-37.50; Dec, £731-32; March, £722-25; May, £712-14. Sales: 2,988 lots, including 4 options. ICO prices: Daily 65.73c. 15-day average 63.05c; 22-day average 63.55c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were easier. The London daily prices were "raws" £178 (£5 down); "whites" £190 (£5 down).—May, £174.50-74.75 per long ton; Aug, £174.55-74.50; Oct, £175.00-75.50; Dec, £175-75.50; March, £172-72.50; May, £172.50-73.25; Aug, £170.50-71.50. Sales: 6,407 lots. ISA prices: 14.70c; 17-day average 15.01c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady.—April, £86-89 per metric ton; June, £87.80-88.40; Aug, £88.88-88.90; Oct, £89.80-90.00; Dec, £90.80-91.00; Feb, £91.80-92.00; April, £92.80-93.00. Sales: 60 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady.—March, 190-200p per kilo; May 195-199p; July, 201-203p; Oct, 212-215p; Dec, 221-222p; March, 235-254p; May, 235-250p. Sales: 34 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT**.—US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: April-first half May, £94.75; May-June, £94.50 direct Tilbury. April-May, £98.05; May, £98; June, £98.10; July, £98.40; Aug, £98.15; Sept, £97.60; Oct, £98.45 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter No 2 ordinary: May, £87-80; June, £88.15 trans-shipment east coast. EEC feed: April, £68.75; May, £69.75 east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: April, £69.50; May, £70.50; June, £71.50 trans-shipment east coast. South African yellow: April, £73; May, £71, Glasgow.

BARLEY.—EEC feed: April, £69; May, £69.50 east coast. All per long ton c.i.f. UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: May, £68.20; Sept, £65.55; Nov, £67.30; Jan, £69.55. Sales, 78 lots. WHEAT was steady: May, £69.95; Sept, £66.35; Nov, £68.35; Jan, £70.75. Sales, 101 lots.

Home Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices:

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Gloucester	—	£68.70	£67
Humberside	—	—	—

Rustenburg pay out despite lower profit

Last October's $15 cut in the platinum price to $155 an ounce, along with continued poor offtake, has again pulled down pretax profits at Rustenburg Platinum Mines from last year's depressed 31.9m rand to 24.7m rand in the six months ended February, 1976.

After last year's passed interim dividend, there is a small 2.73 rand a share payment this time. Rand devaluation has increased the company's Eurodollar loans by 12.1m rand and capital expenditure for the year is expected to be 5m rand higher at 17m rand.

The good news is that despite weak demand Rustenburg is to increase production from the current 900,000oz level.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar lost ground in several European financial centres yesterday declining generally between 100 and 200 points in spot trading.

Sterling shared the dollar's retreat, with the Bank of England's depreciation rate rising to a record 34.1 per cent for the closing level of 33.9 per cent overnight.

Sterling closed at $1.9160 against the dollar, to show a net fall of 10 points. Heavier losses were suffered by the pound against European currencies. Sterling dropped to a day's dollar "low" of $1.9120/30 initially, before its subsequent recovery amid signs of a month-end sale of sterling on account of a Mid-East oil exporting country acted as an early major depressant.

In Europe, the dollar fell to 2.5395/5405 marks from 2.5510/20 overnight, and to 4.6685/6705 French francs from 4.6900/30 previously.

Some banks linked the dollar's losses with modest speculative covering in marks and other currencies ahead of this week's EEC Summit talks in Luxembourg.

In Bonn, government sources said West Germany opposed French attempts to put economic and monetary topics at the centre of the Summit.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.85-.75c prem	2.20-2.10c prem
Montreal	.10c prem-par	.15c prem-par
Amsterdam	3¼-2¼c prem	9¼-8¼c prem
Brussels	10-40c disc	20-40c disc
Copenhagen	1ore prem-1ore disc	2¼-1ore prem
Frankfurt	3¼-2¼pf prem	8¼-7¼pf prem
Lisbon	60-100c disc	100-330c disc
Madrid	70-120c disc	150-220c disc
Milan	15-22lr disc	38-46lr disc
Oslo	3¼ore prem-¼ore disc	4¼-2¼ore prem
Paris	1c prem-1c disc	1¼-2¼c disc
Stockholm	2¼-1¼ore prem	6¼-5¼ore prem
Vienna	30-10gro prem	79-45gro prem
Zurich	4-3c prem	10¼-9¼c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $1.0155-58.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4¼-5¼; seven days, 4¼-5¼; one month, 4⅞-5⅛; three months, 5¼-5¾; six months, 6¼-6½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $125.60 (an ounce); pm, $128.70.

Krugerrand (per coin): $132-134 (£68.75-69.75) (domestic); $132.25-134.25 (£69-70) (international).

Sovereigns (old), $43.25-44.25 (£22.50-23.00) (new $44-46 (£23-24) (international).

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) March 30	Market rates (close) March 30
New York	$1.9120-9175	$1.9155-9165
Montreal	$1.8820-8870	$1.8855-8865
Amsterdam	5.14-17fl	5.14½-15½fl
Brussels	74.60-75.00f	74.70-90f
Copenhagen	11.58-67k	11.59½-57½k
Frankfurt	4.86-90m	4.86½-87½m
Lisbon	55.80-56.25e	55.80-56.10e
Madrid	128.25-85p	128.30-50p
Milan	1605-15lr	1612½-16½
Oslo	10.54-62k	10.54½-55½k
Paris	8.94-9.00f	8.94½-95½f
Stockholm	8.43-46k	8.43-44k
Tokyo	572-82y	574-76y
Vienna	34.90-35.30sch	34.95-35.25sch
Zurich	4.86-90f	4.86-87f

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971 up 0.2 to 34.1 per cent.

Discount market

Day-to-day credit was in full supply in the discount market yesterday and the Bank of England eventually intervened to "mop up" surplus liquidity by selling Treasury bills on a large scale directly to the houses.

Even so, underlying factors suggested the banks would be carrying full balances over to Wednesday. A large excess of Government disbursements over revenue transfers to the Exchequer and balances brought forward from Monday comfortably offset adverse factors.

Secured loans started at about 8 per cent, but were soon coming at 7½ per cent and then steadily down to about 7½ per cent. The close was very easy at between 6 and 6½ per cent for final balances after the authorities' programme of "mopping".

"Eligible" bills were again fairly actively traded, but there was only moderate interest in Treasury bills.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 9%
(Last changed 5/3/76)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 9½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 8 Close 6
Week Fixed: 8½-7½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8¼	2 months	8⅝
3 months	8¼	3 months	8¼

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	8⅝-8⅞	3 months	9
3 months	8⅝-8¾	4 months	9¼
4 months	8⅝-8¾	6 months	9¼
6 months	8¾-8⅞		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9-9¼	7 months	9¼-9
2 months	9-9¼	8 months	9¼-9
3 months	9¼-9¾	9 months	10¼-10
4 months	9¼-9¾	10 months	10¼-10
5 months	9¼-9	11 months	10¼-10
6 months	9¼-9	12 months	10¼-10

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	8¾-8⅝	6 months	8⅞-8¾
3 months	8⅞-8¾	12 months	9⅞-9⅞

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8¼-8¾	3 months	8¾
7 days	8¼-8¾	6 months	9¼
1 month	8¼-8¾	1 year	10¼-10⅛

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 7¼-8 Close 7½

1 week	7¼-7¼	6 months	9¼-9⅛
1 month	8¼-8¼	9 months	9⅝
3 months	8¾-9¼	12 months	10⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9¼ 6 months 9¼

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Electra Inv 25p Ord (87)	84
GLC 12¼% 1983 (£96½)	£9⅞
Hartlepools Wtr 8% Rd Pf (*a)	£10¼
LASMO 10p Unit (10)	168
Do 14% Ln 81-83 (£100a)	£27¼
Mid-Sussex Wtr 8% Rd Pf (*)	£10¼
SCOT 10p Unit (10)	166
Do 14% Ln 81-83 (£100a)	£27¼
Scot Met 9% Cnv 95-98 (£100a)	108-1
Sutton Wtr 9% Pf (*b)	£10¼
Treasury 9½% A 1980 (£96)	£95¼
Treasury 12¼% A 1993 (£25a)	£24¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	Closing
Cement Roadstone (55A)	Apr 30	8p prem
De La Rue (390)	May 22	40 prem
Pen G (30)		35 prem
Diploma Inv (98)	Apr 14	3p prem
Fisons (225)	Apr 7	30 prem
Gill and Duffus (125A)	May 7	29 prem
Letraset (30)	May 7	25 prem
Muscoverte (55A)	Mar 14	9 prem
Parker Timber (70)		23 prem
Raine Eng (15)	May 14	3 prem
Tharsis Sulphur (200)	Apr 30	35 prem
Youghal Carpets (70)	May 14	9p prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. + Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £30 paid. b £10 paid.

Wall Street

New York, March 30.—Prices were moderately lower over a fairly wide area on the New York stock exchange. However, trading was relatively slow on the slide.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off 5.27 to 992.13. About 930 issues declined compared with about 480 advancers.

Volume totalled 17,930,000 shares compared with 16,100,000 on Monday.

Analysts said that with volume quite low the market could not summon enough interest for an attempt to advance.

They added that some hesitation resulted from a deteriorating situation in Lebanon, which threatened to draw other nations into the civil war.

Brisk trading in gold

Chicago, March 30.—GOLD futures closed higher in brisk trading. Comex prices gained $1.30 to $1.50. Prices on the IMM were boosted by arbitrage buying and some local short covering. Prices ranged from $1.70 to $2.10 higher. NY COMEX.—April, $129.50; May, $129.70; June, $130.10; Aug, $130.90; Oct, $132.00; Dec, $133.10; Feb, $134.30; April, $135.50; June, $136.40; Aug, $137.50. CHICAGO IMM.—June, $130.30-130.00; Sept, 131.30-131.60; Dec, 133.00-133.40; March, 134.90; June, 136.70.

SILVER.—Futures regained almost all of yesterday's loss on a technical rally which took prices to their best levels around the close. Final prices ranged 6.00 to 6.40 cents up. April, 406.80c; May, 408.20c; June, 410.50c; July, 412.50c; Sept, 417.30c; Dec, 426.30c; Jan, 429.20c; March, 435.00c; May, 440.80c; July, 446.30c. Handy and Harman, $407 (previous $404.50). Handy and Harman of Canada Can$4.012 (previous Can$3.989).

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Monday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

COPPER.—Futures closed steady 160 points up on 3,536 lots.—April, 62.90c; May, 63.30c; June, 63.70c; July, 64.10c; Sept, 64.90c; Dec, 66.00c; Jan, 66.30c; March, 67.00c; May, 67.70c.

SUGAR.—World sugar futures in No 11 contract closed 0.11 to 0.50 cent off.—May, 14.03-3.99c; July, 14.03-3.99c; Sept, 13.90-94c; Oct, 13.90-94c; Jan, 13.87c nominal; March, 13.75-80c; May, 13.80-7.5c; July, 13.80-79c. Spot, 14.15c, off 30.

COTTON.—Futures fluctuated in a narrow range of 0.35 cent.—May, 57.17-25c; July, 58.05-20c; Oct, 58.15c; Dec, 57.80-95c; March, 58.70c bid; May, 59.30c bid.

COFFEE. Futures in "C" contract extended yesterday's two-cent limit gain, closing 0.78 to 1.20 cents up.—May, 106.75-65c; July, 106.70c; Sept, 106.60c; Dec, 104.80/50c; March, 104.35/45c.

COCOA. Futures rallied from almost a one-cent morning loss to close 0.50 to 0.25 cent up.—May, 69.75c; July, 65.77c; Sept, 63.05c; Dec, 60.20c; March, 58.30c; May, 57.05c; July, unquoted. Spots: Ghana 78¼c; Bahia 75¼c.

WOOL. Futures closed 0.20-cent higher on four sales while Crossbred futures were 0.40-cent higher on three sales. GREASE WOOL.—Spot 166.0c nominal. May, 164.5-9.0c; July, 165.5-9.0c; Oct, 165.0-8.0c; Dec, 166.5-8.0c; March, 163.0-8.0c; May, unquoted. CROSSBRED.—Spot 102.0c nominal. May, 109.0c bid; July, 112.0-3.0c; Oct, 110.0-3.0c; Dec, 110.0-1.5c; March 106.0-10.0c; May, nil.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS: Futures closed higher. Oil prices rose 0.38 to 0.21 cent a lb and meal added $0.30 to $0.70 a ton. SOYABEANS: May, 473¼-2¼c; July, 482-81c; Aug, 486c; Sept, 490c; Nov, 496-89c; Jan, 502¼-03c; March, 510c; May, 517c. SOYABEAN OIL.—May, 16.40-38c; July, 16.54-58c; Aug, 16.62-60c; Sept, 16.73c; Oct, 16.75c; Dec, 16.85c; Jan, 16.90-95c; March, 16.95-70c; May, 17.00-10c. SOYABEAN MEAL.—May, $131.50-60; July, $134.10-20; Aug, $135.30; Sept, $137.00; Oct, $138.00; Dec, 139.80; Jan, 142.00-50; March, $142.00-3.5; May, $144.00-3.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—WHEAT close 3 to 7 cents higher. May, 352¼-351c; July, 359-359c; Sept, 365¼-36c; Dec, 376c; March, 380¼c. MAIZE closed 1¼ to 3¼ cents higher. May, 266¼-267c; July, 270¼-271c; Sept, 268¼c; Dec, 262¼-262¼c; March, 268¼c; May, 272¼c. OATS closed 2 to 2¼ cents higher. May, 149¼c; July, 147¼c; Sept, 146¼c; Dec, 150c bid.

	Mar 29	Mar 26
Allied Chem	40¼	40¼
Allied Stores	37	37¼
Allied Supermkt	4¼	4¼
Allis Chalmers	17¼	17¼
Alcoa	49¼	48¼
Amax Inc	58	58
Amerada Hess	19¼	19¼
Am Airlines	9¼	10¼
Am Brands	42¼	42¼
Am Broadcast	27¼	27¼
Am Can	33¼	33¼
Am Cyanamid	29¼	29¼
Am Elec Power	21¼	21¼
Am Home	33¼	33¼
Am Motors	6	6
Am Nat Gas	36¼	37¼
Am Standard	27¼	27¼
Am Telephone	54¼	54¼
AMF Inc	20¼	20¼
Anaconda	26	26
Armco Steel	33¼	33¼
Asarco	21¼	22
Ashland Oil	26¼	26¼
Atlantic Richfield	99¼	99¼
Avco	10¼	10¼
Avon Products	45¼	45¼
Babcock & Wcox	29¼	29¼
Bankers Tst NY	34¼	34¼
Bank of America	30	30
Bank of NY	32¼	32¼
Beatrice Foods	23¼	23¼
Bell & Howell	24¼	24¼
Bendix	37¼	37
Bethlehem Steel	43¼	43¼
Boeing	27¼	27¼
Boise Cascade	27¼	28¼
Borden	29¼	29¼
Borg Warner	29¼	28¼
Bristol Myers	74¼	74¼
BP	11¼	12
Budd	14¼	14¼
Burlington Ind	27¼	29¼
Burlington Nthn	36¼	36¼
Burroughs	102¼	102¼
Campbell Soup	34	33¼
Canadian Pacific	16¼	16¼
Caterpillar	80¼	82¼
Celanese	57¼	52
Central Soya	14¼	15
Charter NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chase Manhat	30¼	30¼
Chem Bank NY	36¼	36¼
Chesapeake Ohio	36¼	37¼
Chrysler	19¼	19¼
Citicorp	34¼	34¼
Cities Service	46¼	46¼
Clark Equip	41¼	39¼
Coca Cola	87¼	89¼
Colgate	27¼	27¼
CBS	53	53¼
Columbia Gas	26¼	26
Combustion Eng	39¼	39¼
Comwlth Edison	29¼	29¼
Cons Edison	16¼	16¼
Cons Foods	20¼	20¼
Cons Power	20¼	20
Continental Can	29¼	29¼
Continental Oil	67¼	67¼
Control Data	25¼	25¼
Corning Glass	66	66¼
CPC Intnl	43¼	44
Crane	68¼	68¼
Crocker Int	29¼	29¼
Crown Zeller	43¼	43¼
Dart Ind	37¼	37¼
Deere	63¼	64¼
Del Monte	24¼	24¼
Delta Air	43¼	44¼
Detroit Edison	13¼	13¼
Disney	60¼	60¼
Dow Chemical	104¼	105¼
Dresser Ind	79¼	79¼
Duke Power	19¼	19
Du Pont	147	148¼
Eastern Air	7¼	7¼
Eastman Kodak	115	116¼
Eaton Corp	35¼	36¼
El Paso Nat Gas	14¼	14
Equitable Life	21¼	21¼
Esmark	41	42¼
Evans P D	5¼	6¼
Exxon Corp	92¼	92¼
Fed Dept Stores	58	58¼
Firestone	23¼	24
Fst Chicago	21¼	21¼
Fst Nat Boston	29¼	29
Fst Penn Corp	15¼	15

	Mar 29	Mar 26
Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]
GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gamble Skogmo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Instrument	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Tel Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]
Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Georgia Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Getty Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]
Goodrich	[illegible]	[illegible]
Goodyear	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gould Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grace	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gt Atlnc & Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Greyhound	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grumman Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf & West	[illegible]	[illegible]
Heinz H. J.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hercules	[illegible]	[illegible]
Honeywell	[illegible]	[illegible]
IC Inds	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ingersoll	[illegible]	[illegible]
Inland Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
IBM	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Harvester	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Nickel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Tel Tel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jewel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jim Walter	[illegible]	[illegible]
Johns-Manville	[illegible]	[illegible]
Johnson & John	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kaiser Alumin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kennecott	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kerr McGee	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kimberly Clark	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kraftco Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kresge SS	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kroger	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ligg Myer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Litton	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lockheed	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lucky Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Manuf Hanover	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mapco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marathon Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marcor Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marine Midland	[illegible]	[illegible]
Martin Marietta	[illegible]	[illegible]
McDonnell	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mead	[illegible]	[illegible]
Merck	[illegible]	[illegible]
Minnesota Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mobil Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Monsanto	[illegible]	[illegible]
Morgan J. P.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Motorola	[illegible]	[illegible]
NCR Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
NL Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nabisco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Distillers	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norfolk West	[illegible]	[illegible]
NW Bancorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norton Simon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Occidental Pet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ogden	[illegible]	[illegible]
Olin Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Otis Elevator	[illegible]	[illegible]
Owens-Illinois	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Gas Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pan Am	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penn Central	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penney J. C.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pennzoil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pepsico	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pet Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pfizer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]
Philip Morris	[illegible]	[illegible]
Phillips Petrol	[illegible]	[illegible]
Polaroid	[illegible]	[illegible]
PPG Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Proctor Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pullman	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rapid American	[illegible]	[illegible]
Raytheon	[illegible]	[illegible]
RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Mar 29	Mar 26
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Canadian Prices

Abitibi	13¼	13¼
Alcan Alumin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algoma Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bell Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cominco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Bathurst	[illegible]	[illegible]
Falconbridge	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hawker Sid Can	7.62	7.62
Hudson Bay Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hudson Bay Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Imasco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Imperial Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Pipe	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mass-Ferguson	[illegible]	[illegible]
Royal Trust	[illegible]	[illegible]
Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Steel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Talcorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thomson N 'A'	[illegible]	[illegible]
Walker Hiram	[illegible]	[illegible]
WCT	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $1.9167 ($1.9175); three months, $1.8940 ($1.8955); Canadian dollar, 101.58c (101.55c).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 992.13 (997.40); transportation, 207.34 (208.87); utilities, 87.13 (87.36); 65 stocks, 302.22 (303.92).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1975/76 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1975/76 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Offshore and International Funds

1975/76 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Ex dividend. * Not available to the general public. † Guernsey gross yield. ‡ Previous day's price. a Ex all. z Dealings suspended. e Subdivided. l Cash value for £100 premium.

Dealing or valuation days—(1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. (8) Apr 7. (9) Apr 8. (10) Apr 20. (21) April 7. (19) Apr 7. (18) Apr 13. (15) Apr 13. (20) 20th of month. (21) 2nd Thursday of month. (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (23) 20th of month. (24) 1st Tuesday of month. (25) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (26) 4th Thursday of month. (27) 1st Wednesday of month. (28) Last Thursday of month. (29) 3rd working day of month. (30) 16th of month. (31) 1st working day of month. (32) 20th of month. (33) 1st day of Feb, May, Aug, Nov. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of each month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on pages 26 and 27

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants

NON-SECRETARIAL

RECEPTIONIST/ TELEPHONIST

Early 20s, adaptable, good speaking voice, required by Greek Shipping Company in Holborn. PABX 4-18, also postal duties. Excellent and attractive working conditions. Hours 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Salary around £2,200 p.a. according to age and experience. L.V.s and top BUPA cover.
Please telephone Miss Taylor 01-405 3212.

Have you had success in sales?

If you have proven ability and are career-minded ring Barry Cogglestone now on 584 3616 to discuss a variety of positions in both service and consumer industries. The vacancies are open only to those with a successful track record in sales and who now wish advancement.
GENERAL APPOINTMENTS (Sales Division)

TOP JOBS IN ADVERTISING!

Sec/PA to MD, W.C.2. £3,000.
PA/Sec to MD, W.C.1, £3,250+
PA/Sec/Right Hand to MD, W.C.2, £2,850
Sec/Asst. TV dept. Ad Agy. £3,600, run the dept. out on shoots, repeat fees, casting, etc. Previous experience essential. Ring ADventure, 499 1992.

ALERT GRADUATES!

Benefit from a recognized training programme (6 months initially) leading to a career in Sales Management with a national company. Experience not essential—personal qualities will determine your success.
Minimum starting salary £2,400 plus benefits.
RING BARRY EAGLESTONE now on 01-584 3615.
GRADUATE GIRLS/ GRADUATE MEN

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT (with writing flair and basic numeracy) for executive of national non-commercial organization (S.W.1). An interesting post with wide-ranging duties (and own responsibilities) for young Secretary looking for involvement. Starting £3,750 p.a. with review after 3 months. Massey's Executive Selection, 100 Baker Street, W.1. 01-936 6581.

ADMIN. OPPORTUNITY! Ideal for someone who enjoys variety! Will work in marketing department of Record Co. Discount on records, tapes, etc. Good holidays. £2,400.—BROOK STREET BUREAU. 734 3481.

£2,300.—Clerical Assistant required for responsible and interesting position. Ability to run own section within exhibitions department. Knowledge of audio. Subsidised restaurant + 4 weeks holiday.—734 9781. Rand.

AHEAD property company in Hampstead requires an intelligent, well spoken negotiator who is also a good typist. Up to £3,000 p.a. Interested? Phone Gee's Recruitment, 499 6101-4.

RECEPTIONIST for Doctor. Afternoons only. Busy, private West End practice. Telephone 499 [illegible].

INTERVIEWER (trainee) busy W.1 Staff Agy. Typing & general work. Good salary & opportunity. Belle Agy., 935 0731.

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY. See Secretarial Appointments.

PART-TIME Translator/Typist. Arabic/English: mornings or afternoons for Holborn Viaduct Co.; salary negotiable. — Linguist Bureau, 248 3455.

RECEPTIONIST for privately owned hotel in St. Albans: busy restaurant and bar trade; live in, good wages and conditions; must be experienced and willing to accept responsibility. — St. Albans [illegible].

Tempting Times

GOOD TEMPS GET A GREAT DEAL

We are proud of our Temporary Secretaries at Norma Skemp and that is why we take such care of them. We choose their jobs carefully to ensure they are happy in their work and pay them high rates.
Telephone 01-222 6064
NORMA SKEMP PERSONNEL SERVICES LTD., 14 Broadway, London, S.W.1. (opp. St. James's Park underground).

TOO BUSY TO VISIT AN AGENCY?

We have many long and short term assignments in the West End and City. We look after you and pay well. Call us after hours or any time between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
589 6658
HELPING HANDS, 70 Old Brompton Road, S.W.7.

TEMPS WORRY US!

We worry, so our Temps don't have to. If they come up to our standards, we come up with highly paid, interesting jobs. If you think you measure up, ring us and you'll never have to worry again.
SENIOR SECRETARIES
173 New Bond St. W.1.
01-499 0092: 01-493 5907.
YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO BE WITHOUT A JOB.

SPRING IN YOUR STEP and rise in your rates for top City Secretaries. Call Lyn Cecil at Secretaries Plus for £1.55 p.h. 283 2146.

COVENT GARDEN, a well known name for Talented Temps. All skills needed straight away. Covent Garden Bureau, 53 Fleet Street, E.C.4. 353 7696.

SOCIAL WORK ORGANIZATION requires temporary Secretary for interesting post. Graduate preferred.—Prospect Temps. 629 1331.

AUDIO TYPIST for long term booking. Start now. London Town Bureau. 836 1994.

PART TIME Audio Typist to work every Wednesday and Thursday indefinitely. Call Office Overload. 221 6040.

"IF YOU'RE GOOD —YOU'RE KELLY!"
You've seen our name in London for 2 years now
"ISN'T IT TIME YOU CALLED US?"
491 7253—West End
583 7461—City
KELLY GIRL

SECRETARIAL

St Thomas's Hospital

LONDON SE1 7EH

SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT TO MEDICAL STAFFING OFFICER

Salary scale: Higher Clerical Officer (£2,493 to £3,003); increase pending.

The holder of this post will require the ability to work under pressure. First class typewriting skills essential but shorthand whilst an asset is not essential. The department at present is sited in Central Administration but will move into the New Wing in July and be integrated in the General Personnel Department.

Applications in full with the names and addresses of two referees to Miss V. Whissell, Personnel Officer, 79 York Road, London, SE1 7NY. Please quote ref. S/MSO.

Advertising Assistant/ Top Sec £3,000 + + +

Can you handle a high powered position in an in-house advertising agency? You will be both the top flight Sec. to their dynamic young M.D. and also be Assistant Programme Coordinator. You will liaise directly between the Programme Coordinator and the Programme Directors. Attend top level meetings, make top level decisions. If you have had at least 2 years' experience in advertising, have good secretarial skills, are in your mid-20's and like being in a lively, young, good fun atmosphere don't delay, call me today. SUE CUNNINGHAM. 821 7401.
CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

P.A./SEC. NORTH SEA NUGGETT £3,200

Leading Oil Co., heavily involved in North Sea Exploration, has a reputation for providing the best when it comes to prospects and pounds. As P.A./Sec. to the Planning/Development Director, you will be dealing with clients, Government Officials as well as organising the boss, making sure he remembers appointments and generally being a first class P.A. Age 22+. For details phone Chris Wallsgrove now.
637 3787
PRIME APPOINTMENTS

P.A. DESIGN

THEATRES/HOTELS/RESTAURANTS

As PA to this young dynamic Managing Director, you'll use your initiative, handle office administration, run your own show, organise and ensure smooth running of the office. Liaise with clients, arrange Director's travel appointments and meetings. Use your secretarial skills to gain a responsible position. Salary neg. Call Gillian Popeck 734 0911. Drake Personnel, 225 Regent St., W.1.

AUDIO SECRETARY

GERMAN MOTHER-TONGUE

Director of small company in the international magazine publishing business wants an efficient girl with good audio skills. Office is a Georgian house in Holborn, and a pleasant and lively working atmosphere.
Salary £2,800.
Telephone 240 6346.

ARTS DRAMA £2,600

Exciting opportunity to get involved in the Arts world by using your secretarial skills and initiative! Very interesting and stimulating environment. Very happy atmosphere too. Don't hesitate to give me a call—I'm Judith Franks.
CHURCHILL PERSONNEL 821 7401

KINGSTON

Audio Shorthand Secretary for charming but disorganised Director in riverside offices.
EXCELLENT SALARY AND FREE LUNCH
PLEASE RING MRS. PAMELA JOYCE 01-977 9121

ACCOUNTS DIRECTOR of International Advertising Agency is seeking a first-class Secretary/Shorthand Typist. If you are a young Secretary looking for job involvement and client contact call CENTACOM STAFF 937 6525 (Kensington) or 836 2875 (Strand).

PARLI ITALIANO? Bi-lingual Secretary. English mother tongue, fluent Italian (English shorthand only), responsible, interesting position, working for Senior Partner. £3,000 + LVs. Rand Bi-lingual Division. 589 4545.

PB EXECUTIVE of International Company require smart, intelligent, well spoken Secretary PA. Salary £3,100 + bonus + LVs. Phone Marlene Lerner Personnel, 22 Baker St., W1. 935 3012/6450.

SECRETARIES.—Algeria (m/f) bi-lingual, for Anglo-American Co. High salaries, good conditions, food and accommodation.—Belle Agy. 4 Marylebone High St., W.1. 935 0731. 405 4844.

£3,200.—Partner seeks self-assured, outgoing senior secretary for responsible position with involvement. Elegant surroundings. 30p per day LVs. A1 Staff. 403 5591.

PART-TIME Secretary shorthand/typist with Telex experience for Swiss co. in Knightsbridge. Good salary.—235 8981.

BI-LINGUAL P.A./SEC., 20s, English/French, for highly placed Executive, W.1 international air co. Fluent French, good formal skills in both languages. In constant touch with VIPs—London and Paris; savoir-faire. £3,500 p.a.; super fringe benefits.—JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU. 589 8807.

A SUPER EFFICIENT Secretary/P.A. urgently required to share the responsibility of running our busy, friendly office at Hyde Park Corner. Good shorthand. Typing essential; experience in the in-coming travel business desirable. £2,800. Ring Rick at R. and I. Tours. 01-499 2218.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DOMESTIC SECRETARY'S OFFICE

BOOKINGS OFFICE

Secretaries required for the bookings manager and the conference clerk. As well as the usual secretarial skills, applicants require tact and diplomacy for liaising with all levels of college staff and with outside organisations, the ability to work without constant supervision in a busy atmosphere, and a pleasant telephone manner. Salaries for both posts in scale £2,316-£2,841.

DAY BOOKINGS CLERK required to take charge of arrangements and bookings of lecture theatres and rooms for meetings and conferences of one day's duration by both college personnel and outside organisations. Duties include the preparation of bills, liaising with the domestic superintendent regarding cleaning arrangements, providing furniture and other equipment, handling the bookings of overnight guest accomodation and assisting with hall dinners. Salary in sale £2,751-£3,306.

RESIDENCE OFFICE

Secretary/shorthand typist required for the residence office which deals with the letting of accommodation to students. Duties include handling correspondence, preparing bills and answering personal and telephone enquiries from students. Salary in scale £2,316-£2,841.

For all posts the college offers four weeks annual leave plus extra days at Easter and Christmas, libraries and sports facilities. Written applications with details of age, education and experience should be sent to: Mrs A Podhajsky, Bookings Manager, Imperial College, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ.

SECRETARIAL

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

I require an intelligent and energetic person who is able to work fast and accurately with a minimum of supervision. The work involves a variety of audio and copy typing jobs on an IBM electric typewriter, plus a considerable amount of important figure work by telex. The person I am looking for will have a good general education and with several years' secretarial experience.
A lively personality and a cheerful sense of humour are favoured plus a desire to work hard and become a member of a young and fast-growing company. Salary around £2,200 + 4 weeks' holiday and usual fringe benefits. Telephone Avis Pightling, 01-903 5237, or write enclosing c.v. to
OLSTILL PIPE FITTING SUPPLY LTD.,
York House, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 0PA

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

requires

PERSONAL SECRETARIES

Applications are invited from men and women aged 18 and over who have three G.C.E. "O" levels (including English language), typing and shorthand speeds of 35 w.p.m. and 100w.p.m., respectively. Audio would be an advantage for some of these posts.
Salary £2,495 rising by annual increments to £3,125 per annum, with four weeks' holiday and nine-and-a-half public holidays per year.
Write or 'phone for interview, to Jim Mungal,
THE BRITISH LIBRARY
Reference Division
Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG
01-636 1544, extension 469

RESPONSIBLE SECRETARY

required for Senior Administrator of Postgraduate Medical Institute. Applicants (aged about 21-26 years) should have good general education and good shorthand and typing speeds. Salary on scale from £2,316-£2,841 (incl. London Allowance), according to age and experience. 4 weeks annual leave. Modern office, common room and restaurant facilities. Interesting post with variety of work.
Apply Secretary, Cardiothoracic Institute, Fulham Road, London, S.W.3. (352 8121, ext. 41631.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

London Office

INTEREST IN THE ARTS?

Junior Secretary, preferably foreign language speaker, to join small friendly team, transferring to Edinburgh Aug./Sept. for duration of Festival. Salary negotiable.
Please write:
29 St James's Street, London, SW1
or ring 01-839 2611.

Harley Street

Consulting Surgeon requires

SECRETARY

Good shorthand and typing. Medical experience not essential.
Please write with details to: 61 Harley Street, London, W.1.

PROMOTIONS T.V./FILMS

Calling luxury lovers! Just think about having your own office in the executive suite of this well known Co. Organising and attending film screenings, as well as handling the completion of contracts. If you have secretarial skills and enjoy using your initiative, call Gillian Popeck now 734 0911. DRAKE PERSONNEL. 225 REGENT ST., W.1.

KRAZY KOMPANY IN FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION NEED

EFFICIENT SECRETARY

shorthand typing & filing essential. Other qualities optional. Tel. Gail Cassidy, 402 8385.

ARCHITECTS, W.C.2

We are a small, friendly practice, and we need someone who enjoys variety, responsibility and involvement. If you possess accurate typing, a flair for organization, and ability to handle basic figure-work, and would like to earn £2,800 p.a., then please ring 242 5966 for an appointment.

2 CLERK TYPISTS.—Knowledge of Spanish, initiative, common sense and good humour are essential, to work in our small office. Responsible position for experienced person with good understanding of figures. £250 per month to start. Dynamic junior also required. £200 per month to start. —01-606 5541, after 10.30 a.m.

MAIDA VALE.—Sec/PA for Director of small Company. Varied job, calling for the confidence and ability to make decisions in the Boss's absence from office. Working knowledge of German, though not essential, would be a help. Aged 25-plus. Salary circa £2,650. Phone 01-286 4327.

BOOK PUBLISHERS (Fiction & Children's Books) require second Secretary to Foreign Rights Manager. To £2,400 p.a. STELLA FISHER BUREAU, 110 Strand, W.C.2.—836 6644.

SECRETARY, UNDER 30, required by International Executive, American-owned Oil Co., Mayfair offices. From £3,000 p.a. STELLA FISHER BUREAU, 110 Strand, W.C.2.—836 6644.

EDITORIAL SECRETARY for editor of weekly magazine and to generally back up editorial staff. Excellent skills and initiative. Salary to £2,700. Bond St. Bureau. 629 0641.

COLLEGE LEAVING SECRETARIES will find well rewarded, absorbing first-jobs through COVENT GARDEN BUREAU, 53 Fleet St., E.C.4. 353 7696.

HOLIDAYS ORGANISER for small friendly Charity, SW1. Typing essential. Sal. neg. 222 5589.

CHANCE TO TRAVEL.—Fantastic job for bright Sec. P.A. to assist young director of well-known travel co. £2,400 + excellent holiday discount.—836 5924. Just the Job.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY PARIS

seeks

TEACHER OF PITMAN'S SHORTHAND ADAPTION TO FRENCH

(6 hrs./day £3,000 p.a.)
Write with C.V. to T.A.S., c/o Franco-British Chamber of Commerce, 196 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.
First Interviews will be held in London so please indicate telephone contact.

PART-TIME CAREERS

specialize in qualified office staff wishing to work PART-TIME on a PERMANENT basis. Immediate attractive vacancies for experienced Secretaries and Bookkeepers able to work a part of every day up to 25 hours per week, or 3 to 4 full days per week.
Please ring:
PART-TIME CAREERS LTD
10 Golden Square, London W1
01-437 3103
(also at Reading 594336)

APRIL SHOWERS IN AT £3,000 +

Chairman of international co. in Park Lane needs well organized Sec./P.A., 23+. Not a lot of shorthand and typing, but must be able to deal with admin. and run office in his absence. Salary £3,000.

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PERSONAL also on pages 27 and 28

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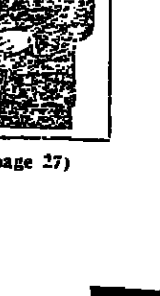

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(continued on page 27)

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Administrative assistant

European Headquarters
High Holborn

The successful candidate will join a small, very busy team engaged in statistical and analytical work in the Quantity Estimating and Planning Department. Applicants should already have experience in a similar capacity and should be educated to at least 'A' level or HND/HNC standard. A flair for figure work and the ability to maintain a consistently high standard while working under pressure are essential.

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Personnel Department (A1T/SEP).
Kodak Limited, PO Box 66 Kodak House,
Station Road, Hemel Hempstead,
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Ready to take on an MD?

Slough . . . neg. c. £3,000

A "top-of-the-tree" secretarial position with a very well known international company. We'd like to hear about it if you're 28+, already have some flexible experience and are ready to step into the shoes of our MD's present very competent and experienced PA.

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P.A. Advertising Ltd.,
Hyde Park House,
Knightsbridge, SW1 7LE.
Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874.

SECRETARY

to Divisional Managing Director

We're looking for a Secretary/P.A. who can offer us more than excellent shorthand and typing speeds. Our Divisional Director needs a good organiser who can work independently and occasionally under pressure to make an effective contribution to the smooth running of his operations.
This means that responsibilities will include both the administrative and secretarial function, producing management information, involvement with varied activities, and dealing with all levels of staff and management.
If you're a fully experienced Secretary looking for job satisfaction and involvement, with a good command of spoken and written English we would like to hear from you. We offer an attractive salary and first-class working conditions, including 4 weeks holiday, free life assurance, contributory pension scheme and subsidized canteen facilities.
Please write giving full details of career to date, or telephone for an application form to :—

Mrs. A. Gordon, Personnel Officer
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Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9BT
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You will probably be about 25, have good typing skills, like people, be self motivated and certainly have a sense of humour.

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German Bank requires an efficient, self-reliant

SECRETARY

for London Branch

Bi-lingual, English mother tongue, sound knowledge of German, English shorthand typing, excellent secretarial skills.
Top salary, excellent company benefits and working conditions.
Interview will be held in London. Full personal details should be sent to Box 0125 P, The Times.

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Much of the job will involve organising visits to the Dartford site for senior businessmen and government officials, from both the U.K. and overseas. The arrangement of entertainment and sight-seeing in London for overseas visitors and their wives may also be needed. Liaising with personnel and public relations, the successful candidate will organise an intelligence service to help identify those customers whose visits will be most advantageous to them and to the company; and ensure that display and other information material is produced and available at Dartford.

Candidates, possibly but not essentially graduates, must have the confidence and style to act as ambassador for a major company. Ability to speak well and communicate easily is essential, as is fluency in French, Spanish and/or German.

Generous benefits include an attractive salary, assistance with relocation expenses where appropriate, four weeks' holiday and excellent pension scheme.

For an application form, please write to or telephone:
Personnel Manager,
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.,
Temple Hill, Dartford, Kent DA1 5AH
Tel: Dartford 23488.

SECRETARY TO ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

A competent and experienced secretary, aged preferably 27 to 35, is required for the Administrative Manager. The successful applicant will have accurate shorthand-typing with reasonable speeds, and will have the poise, tact and personality to deal with people at all levels. This is a busy post with a good deal of involvement and responsibility.
Some knowledge of the workings of a personnel department in a Solicitors Office would be an advantage.
We offer a salary of circa £2,600 per annum, 4 weeks holidays and a number of fringe benefits.

Call

Mr. Bradley on 01-405 3613.

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invites applications for the above secretarial position.

Candidates should be between 21 and 35 years of age, and a competent shorthand typist, with a proven record of secretarial experience. A pleasant personality is essential together with the ability to communicate with staff at all levels. Initiative, self motivation and diplomacy are other important attributes required of applicants.
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So if you are after a really satisfying career (with the extra benefits of travel, sport and comradeship) this could be the job for you.
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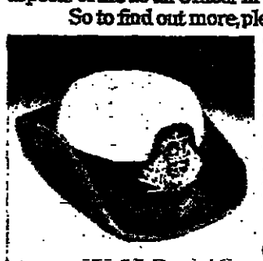

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The need is for a person experienced at senior level to undertake secretarial responsibility to the Director of a recently formed European Business Team and his executive group. Each has already held senior responsibility in one of the company's overseas locations or in England. The job is challenging and will require both energy and a willing disposition.

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If you are interested, please contact Mr B. C. C. Compton, Personnel Officer, Rohm and Haas Company, Chesterfield House, Barter Street, W.C.1. or telephone 01-586 8844.

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Home Economics and Specialised Crafts

Applications are invited for the post of

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

to the above committee which covers one of the major areas of the Federation's work. Applicants may have a degree or equivalent qualifications and should have had some administrative experience, have a good command of English and a knowledge of committee procedure. Typing ability and an interest in practical craftwork and domestic science useful but not essential.

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Experienced Secretary/ Personal Assistant

required for

International Group Managing Director

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Must be fluent in French and preferably with knowledge of one or two other languages in addition to English mother tongue.

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SECRETARIES

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Main Board Financial Director requires a secretary who can anticipate and organise an extremely busy timetable and on whom he can rely to be entirely responsible for the administration of his personal office. Of course, your shorthand and typing will be impeccable, and you'll have an A level education too. Experience in Finance would be an advantage. Salary: up to £3,300. (Rising to June).
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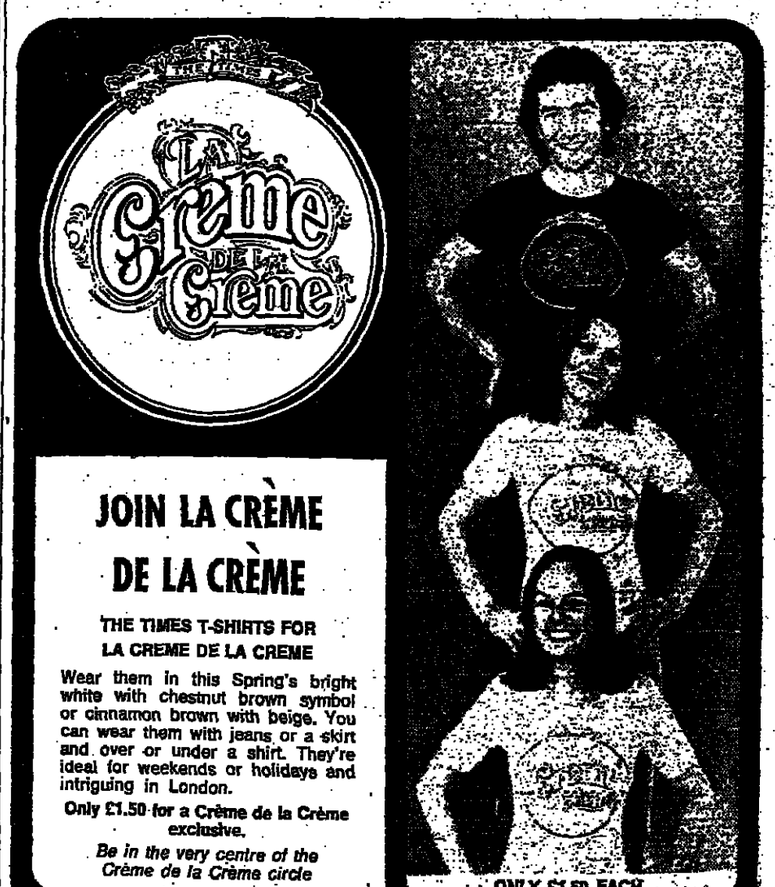

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Based Wembley Park

This appointment requires a pleasant well-mannered personality, combined with initiative and an industrious nature, plus senior secretarial experience including high standard audio-typing and shorthand.

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01-560 2151

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£3,000

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UNMARRIED? Ring Tina, 01-937 6503, for Singles Holidays brochure.

PERSONAL also on pages 25 and 28

Broadcasting

As an alternative to hardships and hard times in Britain the new 13-part serial Luke's Kingdom (ITV 9.0) traces the teething problems of Australia in the 1830s. Another down-under series, Seven Little Australians (BBC1 5.10), is a charming 10-part adventure first shown two years ago. Survivors (BBC1 8.10) returns after an eleven first series charting the world following a plague, Jack Jones (BBC2 9.0)—the singer not the trade unionist—entertains, and The Wednesday Special (ITV 10.30) goes on a fashion parade. Two of the nation's spring preoccupations, the Cup Final and the Grand National, are the subject of Sportsnight (BBC1 9.25), while the pleasantly old-fashioned Oneupmanship (BBC2 9.50) finds Richard Briers weekending, and Cockney comedian Mike Reid is the quizmaster in Runaround (ITV 4.25).—T.S.

BBC 1

6.40 am, Open University: Semiconductors; 7.30-7.55, Ecological Sampling. 12.45 pm, News. 1.00, Pebble Mill. 1.45-2.00, Fingerbobs. Green. 3.30, Day by Night. 4.00, Play School. 4.25, Deputy Dawg. 4.30, Jackanory. 4.45, Country Search. 5.05, John Craven. 5.10, Seven Little Australians. 5.40, Captain Pugwash. 5.45, News. 6.00, Nationwide. 6.50, Film: The Saga of Hemp Brown (1958), with Rory Calhoun, Beverly Garland, John Larch, Russell Johnson. 8.10, Survivors. 9.00, News. 9.25, Sportsnight. 10.50, Tonight. 11.25, Weather.

Regional variations (BBC 1): [illegible]

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University: Consequences of the War: 1914-30; 7.05, The Concept of Mind; 7.30-7.55, The Imperial Roman Army. 10.35, Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 5.00 pm, Open University: School and Society; 5.25, Elementary Maths; 5.50, Mechanics; 6.15, The Drawings of *Seurat; 6.40-7.05*, Reading a Poem.

7.30 Newsday.
8.00 Gardeners' World.
8.25 Arena: Happy Birthday, Royal Court.
9.00 Jack Jones.
9.50 Oneupmanship.
10.20 Microbes and Men.
11.15 Newsnight.
11.30-11.35, Stephen Throne reads A Silent Man, by Peter Redgrove.

Thames

10.00 am, Merrie Melodies. 10.20, Film: Curly Top, with Shirley Temple.* 11.35, Kreskin. 12.00, Rupert Bear. 12.10 pm, Hickory House. 12.30, Mr and Mrs. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime today. 1.30, Couples. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Crown Court. 3.00, About Britain. 3.25, That Song Again. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.25, Runaround. 4.50, The Molly Wopsies. 5.20, The Flintstones.

5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 This is Your Life.
7.30 Coronation Street.
8.00 Man About the House.
8.30 Up the Workers.
9.00 Luke's Kingdom.
10.00 News.
10.30 The Best of British Fashion, with Anthony Valentine, Prudence Glynn.
11.30, Professional Wrestling.
12.00 What the Papers Say.
12.15-12.25 am, In God's Name.

* Black and white.

ATV

10.30 am, The Osmonds. 10.50, Film: And No One could save Her, with Lee Remick, Milo O'Shea, Jennie Linden. 12.00 Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, ATV Today. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35-12.00, Thames.

Southern

10.15 am, The Origin of Rocks and Mountains. 10.30, The Nature of Things. 11.25, Bugs Bunny. 11.35, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Bugs Bunny. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day By Day. 7.00, Thames. 12.00, Southern News. 12.10 am, Weather, *Guideline*.

Granada

9.30 am, Alphabet Soup. 9.55, Animated Classics: The Three Musketeers. 10.35, Journal. 10.50, A Place to Live. 11.05, Spiderman. 11.25, Catch Kandy. 11.45, Hammy Hamster. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Take *Kerr*. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, University Challenge. 7.00, Thames. 11.30, What the Papers Say. 11.45-12.20 am, Professional Wrestling.

Scottish

10.00 am, Man and His World. 10.20, Animated Classics: Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court. 11.30, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Housecall. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Professor Kitzel. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, University Challenge. 7.00, Thames. 12.00, Late Call.

HTV

10.20, Thames. 12.30 pm, Where There's a Wheel, There's a Way. 1.20, News. 1.20, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Fable. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.01, Report West. 6.15, Report Wales. 6.30, [illegible]. 7.00-12.00, Thames. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion Y Dydd. 4.25-4.50, Rhifedi. 6.01-6.15, Y Dydd. HTV WEST: As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, West Headlines. 6.15-6.30, Sport West.

Tyne Tees

10.30 am, Starting Point. 10.35, Ed Allen. 11.00, Paulus. 11.10, Make a Wish. 11.35, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 2.00 pm, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, The Partridge Family. 5.50, News. 6.00, Today. 6.35, Thames. 11.30, Epilogue.

Westward

9.45 am, Focus on Wildlife. 10.10, Farmhouse Kitchen. 10.35, Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 11.30, Where There's a Wheel, There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Supersonic. 5.50, News. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, Thames. 12.00, Westward News. 12.03 am, Power for Life.

Border

10.45 am, Animated Classics. The Last of the Curlews. 11.35, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Untamed World. 1.00, News. 1.20, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, The Partridge Family. 5.50, News. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, Thames. 12.00, Border News.

Anglia

9.55 am, Boney. 10.45, Gilbert and Sullivan, Ruddigore. 11.30, Where There's a Wheel. 12.10 pm, Thames. 1.25, Anglia News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Hogan's Heroes. 5.50, News. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.35, Thames. 12.00, The Big Question.

Grampian

11.00 am, Galloping Gourmet. 11.25, Babar. 11.30, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Return to the Planet of the Apes. 5.45, Police News. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, Thames. 12.00, Prayers.

Yorkshire

10.35 am, Ed Allen. 10.55, Hamilton the Musical *Elephant*. 11.05, Wombles. 12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Jesus the Word. 1.00, News. 1.20, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Calendar. 5.50, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35-12.00, Thames.

Ulster

11.25 am, Where There's a Wheel There's a Way. 12.00, *Thames*. 1.20 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Fantastic Voyage. 5.50, News. 6.00, UTV Reports. 6.35-12.00, Thames.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Don Durbridge.* 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, DLT. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, The News Huddlines. 7.30, The Great American Railroad. 8.02, Al Time Hit Parade.† (9.02-9.50, European soccer Special, 1,500m). 9.30, *Sing Something Simple*.† 10.02, Sports Desk. 10.05, Command Performance.† 11.00, John Peel. 12.00-12.05 am, News.

† Stereo.

2

5.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan (8.27, Racing bulletin). 9.02, Pete Murray (10.30, Waggoners' Walk). 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk 4.47, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Jean Challis (1,500m). 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3

7.00 am, News. 7.05, Your Midweek Choice: Purcell, Bach, Vaughan Williams.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Your Midweek Choice, part 2: Beethoven, Bizet.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Rachmaninov.† 9.40, Organ: Cooke, Hindemith.† 10.10, South Bank Summer Music 1975: Chausson, Brahms.† 11.35, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Kokkonen, Rachmaninov, Sibelius.† 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, Concert Hall: Schumann.† 2.05, Royal Repertoire: Music by Prokofiev.† 4.05, Medici String Quartet: Haydn, Sarlok.† 5.00, Choral Evensong from Exeter Cathedral. 5.45, Homeward Bound. 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued). 6.30, Starting Chinese. 7.00, Ensemble. 7.30, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra: Cooke, Prokofiev, Schumann.† 8.45, What is Oeist? by Maurice Pearton. 9.30, Schubert Lieder Recital: Part 1.† 10.25, The Arts Worldwide. 10.45, Recital: Part 2.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4

6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, The Living World. 9.35, Finger on the Pulse. 10.00, News. 10.05, In Britain Now. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Mr Laurel and Mr Hardy. 11.30, Play: Just his Manner. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Brain of Britain. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Delayed Reaction. 4.00, News. 4.05, The Natural History of John Clare. 4.35, Story: The Skylight. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, *News. 6.15, Oh, Get On With It!* 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News. 7.30, It's Your Line: 01-580 4411. 8.30, Lifelines in Medicine. 8.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.45, The Prospect Before Us. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: The Rain Forest. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.30, News. 11.51-11.54, Inshore forecast.

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

". . . his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." — Lamentations 3: 22, 23.

BIRTHS

BEECH.—On March 29th, at Haslingden, to Mary Anne (née Brewis) and John Beech—a son (James).

CAMPLIN.—On March 30th, to Beryll (née Surk) and Jamie—a daughter (Beth Louise).

CLARKE.—On March 24th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Meg (née Cheeshyre) and Simon—a daughter (Jessica Mary), a sister for Emily.

CUPPAGE.—On March 27th, to Gillean (née Mial) and Alex—a daughter (Joanna Lindsay).

DOWLER.—On March 23th, to Susan (née Groom) and Jeremy Dowler—a daughter (Katharine).

EDWARDS-STUART.—On 25th March, 1976, at home, in Islington, to Fiona and Antony—a sister for Luke.

GENTILLI.—On March 29th, at Queen Charlotte's, to Lynn (née Price) and Simon—a son.

GIBBS.—On March 16, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to Juliet (née Miller) and Andrew—a son, James Daniel.

HOARE.—On 30th March, at Westminster Hospital, to Frances (née Hogg) and Tigger Hoare—a son, brother for Alexander.

MASKELL.—On March 29th, at St Helier Hospital, Carshalton, to Jennifer (née Kelly) and Tim Maskell—a son (Simon Richard).

McMURTRIE.—On 25th March in Durham, to Joy (née Watson) and Douglas McMurtrie—a daughter (Lilabeth), sister to Alexander.

RIDDELL.—On March 29th, at St. Thomas's Hospital, to Sarah and John Riddell—a son.

SMITH.—On 5 March at the Salvator Mundi Hospital, Rome, to Mary Susan (née Messer) and James—a daughter (Emily Katryn Celia), a sister for Fiona.

THOMSON.—On March 15th to Alyson and Tony—a daughter (Miranda), 750 Holly Oak Drive, Palo Alto, California.

WROTTESLEY.—On March 29th at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Francesca (née Miller) and Michael Wrottesley—a son (Alexander Francis).

MARRIAGES

COBB : RANDALL.—The marriage took place on 27th March, at Barnes Methodist Church between David James Cobb and Sarah Elizabeth Randall.

MARTIN : BATTYE.—On March 20th in the Union Church Hong Kong, William Wyatt Martin to Fiona Evelyn Battye.

RITCHIE : RANDALL.—The marriage took place on 27th March at Barnes Methodist Church between Brian Herbert Ritchie and Caroline Dorothy Randall.

SHIRMAN : BARNES.—On 27th March at Stafford, Staffordshire, Richard Laurence, only son of Mr and Mrs. Sidde Shirman, of Redford Park, London, W.2, to Margaret Jan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs. Jack Barnes, of Great Missenden, Bucks.

SHRIMPTON : ACKERS.—In January, 1976, at Stratford-upon-Avon, Frederick Argyle Shrimpton to Judith Anne Ackers (née Locket).

DEATHS

BAINBRIDGE.—On March 28th, 1976, at Mount Alvernia Nursing Home, Guildford, after a brief illness, Margaret Letitia (Peggy), aged 72, beloved wife of Major General Henry Bainbridge, and mother of Bill and John. Funeral at St. Mark's Church, Peaslake, at 12 noon on Saturday, April 3rd.

BENROY.—On March 29th at his home, aged 86, Acher, beloved husband of Evelyn, and father of Edwin and Lilian. Funeral service 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 31st, at Hoop Lane Cemetery, London, N.W.11. No flowers, please.

CHAVASSE.—On March 28th, Kenneth Grant, M.V.O., husband of Denise, father of Dreenagh and stepfather of Jane. Funeral service at Westminster Abbey at 10.15 a.m., Friday, 2nd April, followed by private burial at St Nicholas Church, Chislehurst, Kent. No flowers or letters, please.

COMYN.—On 30th March, 1976, in her 89th year, at the Planche Nursing Home, Thurston, Bury St Edmunds, Esther Mary (Ella), widow of Col. Lewis James Comyn, C.M.G., D.S.O., dearly loved mother of Jack, Betty and Victor. Funeral private. A memorial requiem mass will be arranged later.

CONNOLLY.—On March 24th, suddenly Wilfrid John, much loved husband, father and grandfather. Requiem mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Edgehill, Wimbledon at 2.30, Friday, 2nd April. Cremation private.

COPE.—On March 29th, 1976, in University College Hospital, Dr. Robert William Cope, husband of Jean. Cremation private. No flowers, please. Donations, if desired, to the Great Ormond St. Hospital Appeal Fund. A memorial service will be announced later.

DOUSE.—On 28th March, 1976, at Malmesbury District Hospital, after a long illness, Leigh Douse, of The Flat, The Beeches, Great Somerford, Chippenham, aged 77 years. Funeral at Great Somerford Parish Church on Friday, 2nd April, at 10.30 a.m. Flowers and enquiries to H. & C. Matthews, Funeral Directors, Malmesbury. Tel.: 2210.

EDWARDS.—On March 25, 1976, suddenly, but peacefully, Gordon Edwards, C.B.E., of Hobbits, Cuckfield, Sussex, greatly loved husband of Marjorie, dear father of Robin and father-in-law of Doreen, and loving "Grandpa" of Eleanor. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield, on Friday, April 2, at 2.30, followed by cremation.

ELWES.—On 29th March, 1976, Major Robert Philip Henry, M.B.E., M.C., in a Dublin nursing home, of Athry House, Ballinafad, co. Galway, loved husband of Billy and father of Nigel, Christopher and Sarah. Funeral Service, St Patrick's Cathedral, Trim, on Thursday, April 1, at 3.00 p.m. No letters please.

FEATHERSTONE.—On March 28th, peacefully, at the home of her niece in Oxfordshire, Mabel Gertrude, aged 90, widow of Hugh Latimer Featherstone, of 15 Huntingdon Drive, Nottingham. Cremation Thursday, 1st April, 1976, 3.30 p.m. at Oxford. Family flowers only. Donations to Oxfam.

FRENCH.—On 29th March, peacefully, at her home, "Moorlands", Kingswood, Beatrice Irene King, widow of Douglas Gordon and beloved mother of Nora. Funeral service at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, at noon on Monday, 5th April. Family flowers only. Inquiries to Trueleve, 01-642 8211.

HAYNES.—On Monday, March 29th, 1976, peacefully at her home, The Grey Lodge, Widney Manor, Solihull, Warwickshire, in her 97th year, Mary Mildred (née Gurney), beloved wife of the late Bernard Maya Haynes, and mother of Pamela, Rosalind, Stephen and Philip. Funeral at France Lynch, Stroud, Gloucestershire, on Friday, April 2nd, at 12 noon. Family flowers only.

JACKSON.—On March 28th, Colonel Frank Lawson John, O.B.E., T.D., late of the North Staffordshire Regiment, aged 80 years. Dearly loved husband of Pam. Funeral service at Bretby Crematorium on Monday, April 5th at 12 noon. Floral tributes, please, to the Chapel of Rest, Wellings Funeral Directors, 35 Derby Street, Burton-on-Trent, 1 Hamilton Road, Burton-on-Trent.

LAURITZEN.—On 28th March, suddenly and peacefully, Vilhelm, beloved husband of Karen Margrethe. Funeral service Tuesday, April 6th, 11.30 a.m., at St. Katharine's Danish Church, Regent's Park, London. Family flowers only please, but donations for the Scandinavian Benevolent Society will be gratefully acknowledged.

LAW.—On March 29th, in a Worthing nursing home, Florence Clarla, late of Offington Lane, Worthing. Dearly loved widow of Sir Charles Ewan Law (previously widow of Wyndham Ogilvie Law). Funeral at Worthing Crematorium on Friday, April 2nd, at 11 a.m. Flowers to Jordan and Cook Ltd., Funeral Directors. Telephone: Worthing 33752.

LE BROCQUY.—At his home, 51 Kenilworth Square, Dublin, on 28th March, 1976, in his 88th year, Albert, beloved husband of the late Sybil Le Brocquy and beloved father of Louis Noel and Melanie. Burial strictly private. By his wish.

LINCOLN.—On March 25th, 1976, Norman, of Bloemfontein, Orange Free State.

LIVERPOOL.—On 29th March, 1976, peacefully, in hospital, Constance, of Stonleigh House, Longborough, Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos., widow of Gerald, third Earl of Liverpool. Cremation private. A service of thanksgiving will be held at Church of St Lawrence, Bourton on the Hill, Moreton-in-Marsh, on Monday, 5th April, at 3 p.m. No flowers, please, but donations, if desired, to National Trust, 42 Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1.

McCARTHY.—On March 27th, 1976, in hospital, Joan of The Tatty Bogle. Cremation at Golders Green at 4.10 p.m. on Wednesday, 31st March.

McCONNELL.—On March 27th, 1976, in hospital, Major J. W. McConnell, C.B.E., 15 Cairnshill Avenue, Belfast, formerly permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Northern Ireland, and Industrial Adviser to the Minister of Labour. Husband of the late Margaret Jane McConnell, father of Joan and Anne and grandfather of Julian.

MacDONALD.—On 30th March, 1976, at Heathfield Hospital, Ayr, Isabella Fleming Haig, dearly loved wife of John Stewart MacDonald, 12 Duart Avenue, Prestwick, and formerly of Shanghai, China, and Kitwe, Zambia.

McFADYEN, BERYL.—On 27th March, 1976, of Sydney, Australia, C.B.E., O.St.J., beloved wife of the late Lionel McFadyen, loving mother of Robin, Gordon, Margot and Ross.

MAITLAND.—On March 29th, 1976, peacefully, in hospital, Richard Macleod, father of Sarah and Adam. Cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3 p.m., Friday, April 2nd. Memorial service to be announced later. No flowers, please.

MEW.—On 23rd March 1976, suddenly and peacefully, Sybil Ruth (née Child), dearest wife of Francis Mew, of Kingston Manor, in the Isle of Wight. Memorial service, St. Thomas' Church, Newport, on 13th April, at 2.30 p.m.

MOUNT.—On 28th March, suddenly Brigadier Eric Burnand Mount, O.B.E., at Swyre Head, Southampton, Bermuda. Beloved husband of Kitty. By request, no flowers but donations to National Army Museum Building Appeal, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HT.

O'FLYNN.—On 28th March, quietly at his home, Loch Lomond, Burraneer Point, New South Wales, Australia, Surgeon Rear Admiral Joseph A. O'Flynn, C.B., M.D., B.Ch., D.T.M. & H., former K.H.P. Beloved husband, father and grandfather, cremated privately in Sydney. No letters, please.

POVAH.—On March 29th, 1976, Winifred, widow of J. W. Povah, B.D., mother of Deborah Waller. Cremation at Hereford on Friday, 2nd April at 3.30 p.m.

RICHARDSON.—On March 30th at St Stephens Hospital, Fulham, Gwynedd Eric, aged 77 years. Beloved sister, aunt and friend. Funeral private, no flowers, by request. Memorial Service to be announced later.

ROBERTSON.—On 29th March, 1976, in his 89th year, John Farquharson Robertson, of 325 Blackness Rd., Dundee, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral service at Roseangle Church, Dundee, on Thursday, 1st April, at 3.15 p.m., thereafter privately.

RUSSELL.—On 29th March, suddenly, at home at The Drift, Evesham, Roy Alexander, beloved husband of Eve and dear son and nephew of Flora and Meg.

RUFFELL-THOMAS. — On March 26th, 1976, after a long illness, Mary Agatha Pauline, aged 73 years, of Faltte, New Cross, Long Burton, Sherborne, Dorset, widow of H. R. Ruffell-Thomas of Porlock, Somerset. Service of thanksgiving for her life on Thursday, April 1st, 3 p.m., at Long Burton Parish Church. Funeral service Friday, April 2nd at Luccombe Parish Church, nr. Porlock, Somerset. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for the Parkinsons Disease Society, c/o G. H. Cook & Son, Funeral Directors, 8-11 Bond Street, Yeovil, Somerset. Tel. Yeovil 5386.

SCHOLFIELD.—On Thursday, March 25th, at 2 St. Leonards Terrace, London, S.W.3, Ralph Becker, husband of Margaret. Private funeral took place March 29th.

TEMPLE.—On 25th March, at Tooting Bec Hospital, Muriel Blanche, loved wife of the late Lt. Col. H. E. Temple, loved mother of the late F. O. H. L. Temple (35 Sq. R.A.F.), loved cousin of Mrs. V. Luttrell, 25 Lynch Street, Hughes, ACT, Australia. Funeral service Wednesday, 7th April, at 2 p.m. at Putney Vale Crematorium.

TRIGGS.—On 28th March, 1976, suddenly and peacefully, at her home, Anne Geraldine Mary Triggs (née Rendel). Dearest wife of Jack and mother of William, daughter of Sir George Rendel. Requiem Mass at Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church Street, W.8, at 11 a.m. Monday, 5th April, 1976. Flowers to: Messrs. J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 49 Marloes Road, London W8 6LA.

VAUGHAN.—On March 29th, peacefully at Maes-y-Brynar, Dolgellau, Charles Hilary Vaughan, Vaughan (formerly Pritchard), D.S.O., Brigadier, late R.W.F. and Parachute Regiment, aged 70 years. Funeral at Llanfachreth Church, on Wednesday, 31st March, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only, donations to Airborne Forces Benevolent Fund will be accepted by the Manager, Midland Bank Ltd., Dolgellau, Gwynedd.

WATKINS.—On March 27th, very suddenly, Col. Charles Alan, R.M. (retd.), dear husband of Joan, and father of Sonia and Keith, of Ridgewood, Clayhidon, Cullompton, Director of N.A.W.D.G. Funeral at Taunton Crematorium on Thursday, April 1st, 3 p.m. Donations in lieu of flowers to Crowcombe Court Appeal Fund, 89 Sherborne Road, Yeovil, would be much appreciated.

WHITTLE.—On March 30th, 1976, at Inverness, Dorothy, youngest daughter of Charles and Jessie Clover, widow of Captain J. P. R. Whittle, M.C., in her 84th year. Cremation at Perth Crematorium, on Saturday, April 3rd, at 11.00 a.m. Memorial Service at St. Saviours, Oxton, to be announced later.

FUNERAL

HULL, SIR HUBERT.—The requiem mass for Sir Hubert Hull will be at 11.30 a.m., on Friday, April 2nd, at Westminster Cathedral. No flowers.

IN MEMORIAM

RIDEHALGH.—In loving memory of George William Ridehalgh, who gave his life in the service of his country, March 31, 1940.

COSTER, SAMUEL WALTER JOHN. —September 9, 1895–March 30, 1975.—In proud and grateful memory of my beloved father. Ubique. E.H.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

HOWGEGO.—Tony and Family wish to thank all relatives and friends for help and for kind expressions of sympathy in their recent loss. Please accept this as their grateful acknowledgement.—Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

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BASSETT.—BERNARD FREDERICK BASSETT, late of 269 Fordhouse Lane, Stirchley, Birmingham, died there on or about 30th January, 1975 (estate about £11,000).

BRALEY.—CYRIL CHARLES BRALEY, late of 22 Goldingham Avenue, Loughton, Essex, died in Maldon, Essex, on 8th October, 1975 (estate about £4,500).

COX.—THOMAS COX, late of Hundred Acres, Banstead Hospital, Sutton, Surrey, died there on 25th July, 1975 (estate about £3,200).

FORSTER otherwise **TAHER** née **IBRAHIM.**—STELLA WADEA TAHER FORSTER otherwise STELLA WADEA FORSTER otherwise STELLA FORSTER otherwise WADIA TAHER otherwise WANDA STELLA FORSTER née IBRAHIM, single woman, late of 618 Prince of Wales Mansions, Prince of Wales Drive, London, S.W.11, died at Lambeth, London, S.E.1, on 13th August, 1975 (estate about £3,350).

JONES.—CYRIL ARTHUR JONES otherwise CYRIL JONES, late of "Pinewood", Station Road, Preston, Brighton, Sussex, died at Brighton, on 15th September, 1975 (estate about £2,200).

LEWIS, formerly **SENIOR** née **WELLER.**—ADA FLORRIE LEWIS formerly SENIOR née WELLER, widow, late of 32 Ridgeway West, Sidcup, Kent, died at Chelsea, London S.W.3, on 20th November, 1975 (estate about £3,300).

OWEN.—WILLIAM RICHARD OWEN, late of Mid Wales Hospital, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys, died there on 7th September, 1975 (estate about £2,500).

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, Westminster, London, S.W.1, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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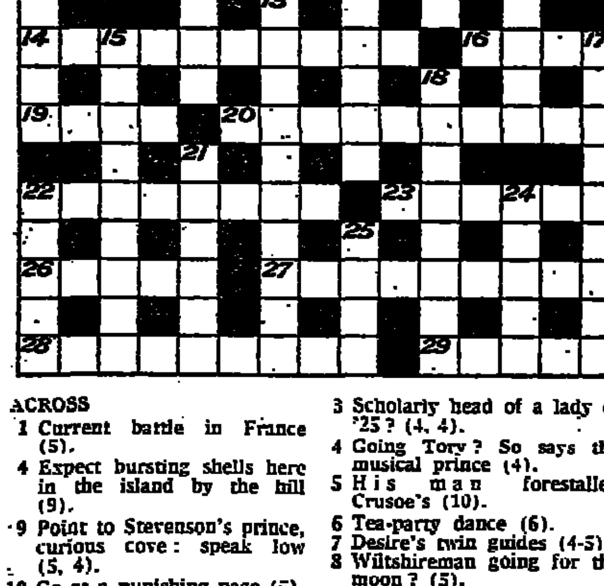
(continued on page 27)

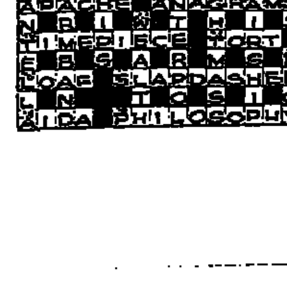
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,265



ACROSS
1 Current battle in France (5).
4 Expect bursting shells here in the island by the hill (9).
9 Point to Stevenson's prince, curious cove: speak low (5, 4).
10 Go at a punishing pace (5).
11 For uncle a perhaps would-be bootless exercise (6).
12 Unhurried thespian? (8).
14 Diana's musical show seems to cause embarrassment (10).
16 This ledge from nudists' tree? (4).
19 Scots luminary or mousy creditors (4).
20 They're bonneted and decked for fare (5, 5).
22 Lieutenant looks after, but is opposed (8).
23 No mac, Burns? Just a boater (3-3).
26 Finding things "weary, stale, flat and unprofitable" (5).
27 Alumnus assembly with a bee in its bonnet? (9).
28 I would turn to Edmund with a prescription (9).
29 Broken skies Nancy's ruin (5).

DOWN
1 Sounds as if what the usherette did was in error (9).
2 Assessment a pound—it's beastly! (5).
3 Scholarly head of a lady of '25? (4, 4).
4 Going Tory? So says the musical prince (4).
5 His man forestalled Crusoe's (10).
6 Tea-party dance (6).
7 Desire's twin guides (4-5).
8 Wiltshireman going for the moon? (5).
13 Those wearing pleats are squeezed for air (10).
15 Dorset dunes (9).
17 In other words, laughable notions in chickens (4-5).
18 Elizabeth is among Lincoln's superior ladies (8).
21 She is in the little valley (6).
22 Horse South prepared to drive with the club (5).
24 Goodfellow, not Robin, just a varsity red (5).
25 First man in Russia to organize the arts (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,264



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هكذا من الأصل

This Special Report examines one of the fastest developing societies in the world, a union formed from seven neighbouring shaikhdoms in 1971. In particular it looks at the spending and investing of vast oil revenues both at home and abroad

United Arab Emirates

Military merger is next big hurdle

by Ann Fyfe

Détente is not exclusive to the superpowers. In the Gulf in the past year or so the leaders of Iraq and Iran embraced in public, the rogue Aden régime edged part of the way back into the Arab fold in parallel with the apparent ending of the Dhofar insurgency in Oman and the United Arab Emirates shook diplomatic hands with its two big neighbours, Saudi Arabia and Iran. These latter two developments were the big news externally in 1975; at home several of the remaining obstacles in the path of federalism were surmounted, leaving the issue of the merger of the Armed Forces in the centre of attention.

Some projects were completed, many more begun; life is expensive but comfortable for most with an already wide but widening range of luxury lines in the shops. The population is at last quantified (the census was a big national event not without its humorous moments) at 655,937—double the rough estimate of 1974. Many of the total are foreigners against whom there is no trace of xenophobia yet, multiracialism having long been an economic fact of life.

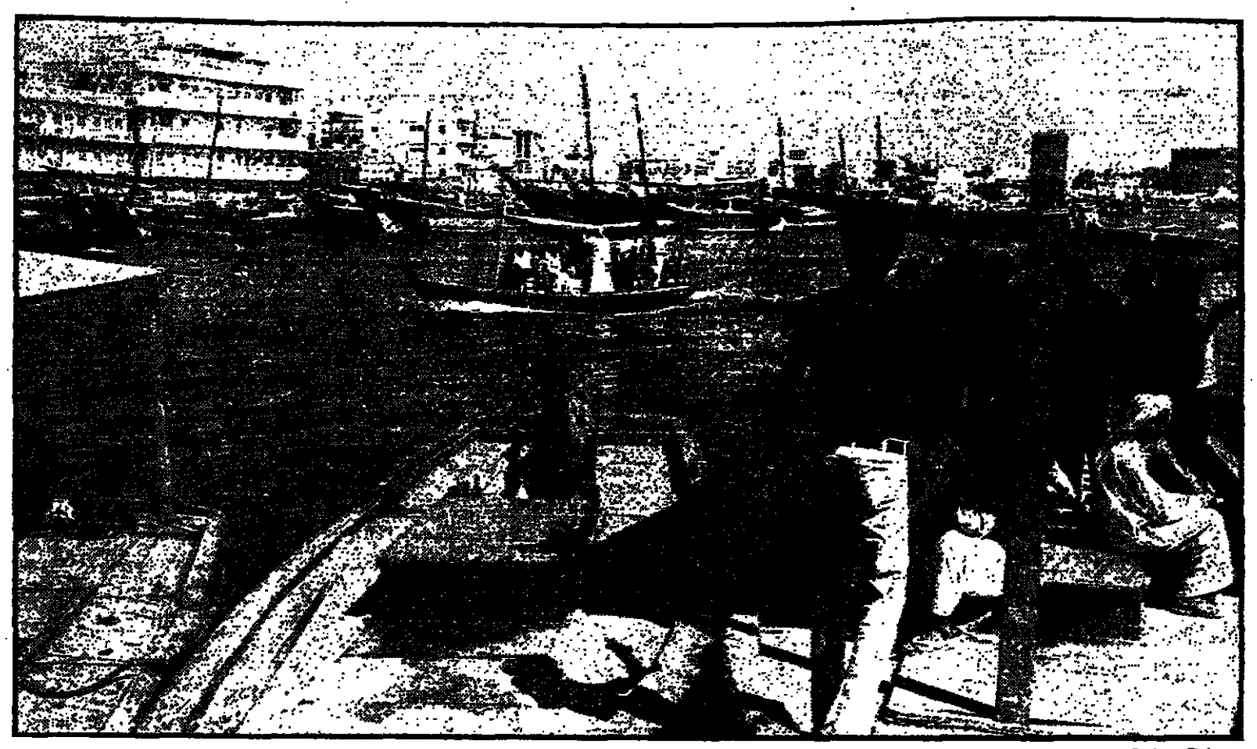
Externally, independence in 1971 left the UAE in bad odour with its two big neighbours, Saudi Arabia and Iran, the former with a territorial claim on a group of oases in the south of the Emirates and the latter with a claim on the offshore islands. Mending, or rather dismantling the fences has been the UAE's immediate foreign policy concern since then, and in the autumn of 1974 a border agreement on the Liwa oases was signed with Saudi Arabia.

Saudi then recognized the UAE at last; the two countries exchanged ambassadors and Shaikh Zayed, the Head of State of the UAE, paid a state visit to Saudi Arabia in 1975. Prince Fahd returned it and while in Abu Dhabi met the foreign minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, hitherto the fly in the ointment of détente in the Gulf.

Just before Christmas last year the Sultan of Oman announced that the Dhofar rebellion, long supplied and led from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, was finally crushed; if this is so, there is nothing to prevent the rehabilitation of Aden, and the emirates have given the lead there by proffering a sizable loan from the Abu Dhabi Fund.

But the spectacular reconciliation of the year was the Algiers agreement between Sadam Hussain of Iraq and the Shah of Iran putting an end to the Kurdish uprising (and the Kurds) and engendering real euphoria among the smaller states farther down the Gulf. The agreement filled the newspapers of the Gulf for weeks and is still fresh in the public mind a year later, in contrast with, say, the assassination of King Faisal.

For the UAE, as for its Gulf neighbours, there is no real alternative to détente with the military giant; no one would deny that there have been difficulties, extending in size from the serious issue of the islands to the trivial one of the name of the Arabian Gulf News Agency, which recently provoked the Shah of Iran into withdrawing his ambassadors from the agency's member states, but the basic national interest in stability and the repulsion of great power overtures is the same on both sides of the Gulf. Shaikh Zayed paid a state visit to Teheran late last year.



Graham Finlayson

Ferries still thrive on Dubai Creek despite the new tunnel under it.

Internally, the prestige of federalism benefited greatly from the Ruler of Sharjah's November initiative in merging the Sharjah National Guard with the Union Defence Force, handing control of the broadcasting station to the Federal Ministry of Communications, the police to the Ministry of the Interior, the courts to the Ministry of Justice and in abolishing the Sharjah flag in favour of the federal tricolour. Fujayrah immediately did the same, followed by Abu Dhabi in the case of the flags.

Previously, last summer, the Supreme Federal Council (the seven Rulers) had agreed, among other things, that the police and internal security apparatus (which is not nearly as ominous there as its name would suggest elsewhere) should come under the overall control of the Ministry of the Interior.

Next, later in 1975, Abu Dhabi made a significant move in the direction of financial federalism by committing half of its 1976 oil revenue in advance to the federal budget. Already in 1975 Abu Dhabi had provided 2,000m dirhams of the federation's total budget of 2,800m dirhams, but that contribution of 2,000m dirhams represented only a fraction of Abu Dhabi's own revenue from oil which amounted to 13,100m dirhams.

The federal issue outstanding is the merger of the three principal armies, the small Union Defence Force, the Dubai Defence Force and the large Abu Dhabi Defence Force. At the Supreme Council Meeting, it was agreed in principle that the merger should take place after a committee of military experts from neutral Arab countries had advised on its execution.

The committee of experts duly did its work and reported and the Supreme Council met again in December to discuss its findings. This meeting was then adjourned, however, to permit the Rulers to study the report at greater length, and so far the date of its resumption has not been announced.

Apart from the Armed Forces issue, public opinion at home is greatly interested at present in the rising cost of living, particularly food and rents. Pressure on accommodation is severe and not easing; this difficulty will not be solved by market factors alone. Government intervention on food prices, such as centralized marketing, subsidies and cooperatives, is bringing some results, however, and many welfare benefits are available to citizens, public expenditure not being a matter of contention. For foreigners the standard of living is high for western expatriates, who live in company villas and as a rule employ domestic servants but not so high for the largely Asian work force, which has been particularly hard hit by the rent increases.

There are few of the home comforts of any of the many nationalities living there which are not already available in the shops, supermarkets and boutiques. Personal consumption across the board continues its meteoric rise, there being no reason in an oil surplus economy why it should be curbed as it is not a case of scarce capital being diverted from other priorities.

Only a minimal proportion of private sector resources is invested in manufacturing industry as yet, but this is not because of any capital famine, rather because alternative investment choices, notably property, are both profitable and familiar: a different problem but a problem just the same.

Luxury goods and jewelry in particular have become more conspicuous in the past year with ranges such as Cartier, Patek Philippe, Piaget and Pierre Cardin readily available and a Heal's shop newly opened in Dubai. The British Luxury Goods Exhibition in February brought china, furnishings, antiques, fine art and jewelry, much of it highly regarded locally. The overall import figure for 1975, when available, will be up on 1974 but not by a percentage in three figures as was the case in the rush between 1974 and 1973.

The media consists of radio services in the four largest emirates, television in Abu-Dhabi and Dubai, two Arabic-language daily newspapers, the official *al-Ittihad* (Federation), which is informative and well-rounded, despite its Ministry of Information affiliations, and the more flamboyant *al-Wahda* (Unity).

Three new papers are publishing weekly but planning to go daily and there is one official English language daily, a daily Reuters service and the Bahrain-based *Gulf Weekly Mirror*. Circulation factors limit the prospects of any daily paper there but government financial assistance is being made available, the press being seen apart from anything else as a safety valve. Certainly *al-Ittihad* is much oriented to community issues.

Last year it was reported that the price of food was the main butt of the *Ittihad* satirists. This year food prices still crop up on the cartoon page but have been joined by the issues of bureaucracy and the census enumerators, who were pioneers and came up against all sorts of hazards. Landlords also come under attack (particularly after this year's exceptionally cold wet winter, a matter for celebration in that part of the world except that heavy rain turned many grossly overpriced apartments almost into slums). There were two scandals, one involving building contractors and the other visas.

Immigration is another national issue; the National Assembly, whose growth in public stature has been one of the main events of 1975, cut its teeth on a rather open-ended nationality law and threw it out. But the UAE cannot develop without foreign labour and skills. There is an element of tight-rope walking there.

Incidentally, visitors might note that in the prevailing circumstances, the 96-hour visa at the airports is being extended to bona fide businessmen, with credentials, only.

A labour law has been drafted and debated in the assembly. It guarantees a minimum wage, certain basic conditions of work and some degree of social insurance but extends the right to organize only to citizens, not to the immigrant workforce.

For most citizens and Europeans the living is comfortable, unvexatious and expensive. All the national communities mix frequently as a matter of course, and no one lives in fear of a knock at the door; Insurance company actuaries, in their calculations, disregard any civil disturbance factor.

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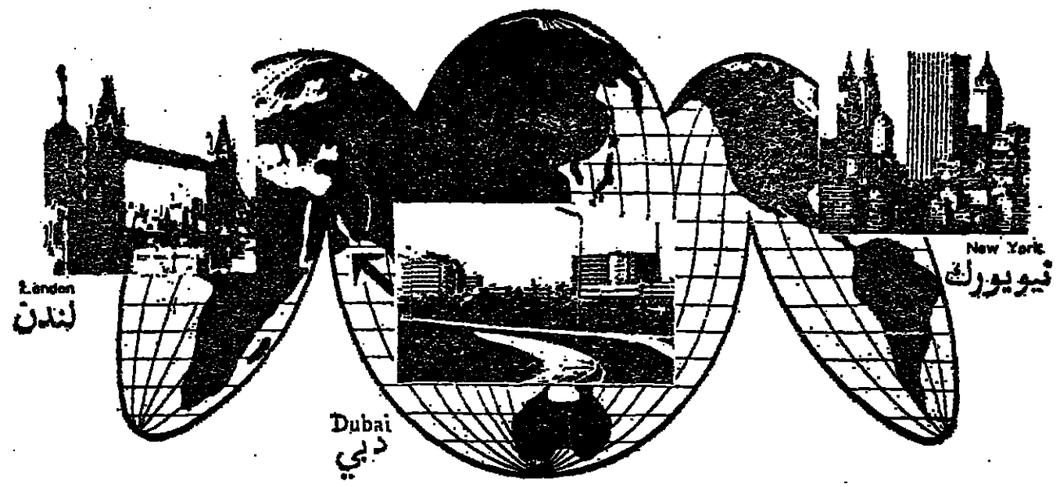

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Serious inflation despite immense prosperity

by Malcolm Brown

The going rate for a dowry in the United Arab Emirates—the prospective husband pays the wife's parents—is now about 16,000 dirhams (£2,000). This enormous sum, which is causing social problems that are attracting the attention of the Government, is just one of the side effects of the serious inflation which has become part of the way of life in the emirates.

The emirates are immensely prosperous, but its wealth is based almost wholly on oil. Revenues from the oilfields have risen greatly since the first oil shipment left Abu Dhabi's Das island 13 years ago. Oil receipts in 1974 alone, after the major price increases in October, 1973 and January, 1974, were equal to the total for the previous decade.

But being almost a one-commodity state the emirates depend on imports to fulfil nearly all their basic needs. Food, manufactured goods, machinery, transport equipment, building materials, textiles and iron and steel are all shipped or flown in.

So, having helped to export inflation to America, Europe and Japan with the 1973-74 oil price increases the UAE is now reimporting it with every ton of freight which is offloaded. Compounding this, rents are rising at 60 to 70 per cent a year.

Estimates of the overall rate of inflation vary, but even the most modest would be about 30 to 35 per cent. At its simplest level the effects of this can be seen in the foodshops, where it is possible to find half a dozen price stickers on one tin of food, each cancelling out the previous one. When a bank manager has to pay £9,000 a year, in advance, to rent a modest house and tells one that the basic philosophy of anyone who wants to live in the UAE must be to pay today, for tomorrow the price may have doubled, it is clear that the internal economy of the country leaves a lot to be desired.

It is difficult to judge just how seriously the Arabs take this problem. Institutions like the UAE Currency Board sound warnings that the inflation, already serious, may get worse if this import-intensive country continues to be so consumer-oriented and incomes continue to rise.

But as yet there are no obvious signs that the UAE Government feels the problem is getting out of hand or has it in mind to use any draconian measures to dampen the rate of price increases. Instead, the visitor's attention is directed to the boom aspects of the economy—to the enormous amount of money which is being collected on oil and the generous financial aid which the emirates are making to less fortunate countries.

The money flowing from the UAE's oil resources is high. The net oil revenue in the UAE in 1974 was 20,000m dirhams, with the same or more expected to be shown up in the final figures for 1975—and that for a country with a total population significantly smaller than a city such as Birmingham.

This vast wealth—the emirates have the highest per capita income in the world—is at once a boon and a potential danger. On the credit side it permits the emirates, which a decade ago were a group of poor states based on the traditional activities of fishing and agriculture, to fund the extensive developments needed to bring them speedily into the second half of the twentieth century. On the debit side, it shields them to a large extent from the consequences of their own mistakes, which in the long run could be dangerous.

When money is no object there is a danger that the ability to differentiate between a good or a bad investment will be impaired. Last May, for example, it was announced that Dubai was to build a multi-million pound aluminium smelter; six months later Abu Dhabi was said to be considering a similar scheme. Yet the two towns are less than 150 miles apart. Are they simply vying with one another for prestige projects? With Bahrain's smelter only a short way up the Gulf, does the UAE, a small country, really need its own smelter?

In general, development in the main two centres, whether or not it is the right kind of project, is taking place at breakneck speed. Docks, bridges, houses, hospitals, office blocks, roads and luxury hotels all jockey for place in the building programme, providing a gold mine for the construction companies and a major source of employment.

The pace is far slower in the northern emirates—Sharjah, Umm al Qaywayn, Ras al Khaymah, Ajman and Fujayrah—though even there the tempo is beginning to increase: Ras al Khaymah has started work on a deep water port at Khor Khowair and Fujayrah is drawing up plans for an airport and port.

Peter Carmichael

Arabs shopping in a supermarket.

But while the main services are being attended to with a rare panache, there is little sign yet of any significant movement towards industrial diversification. There are one or two projects at the highly capitalized, modern technology end of industry: in Abu Dhabi (perhaps not true diversification) the liquefied natural gas plant on Das island and the new oil refinery which will serve both domestic neighbouring markets; in Dubai, the massive dry dock, due for completion in 1978 which will have a 100-acre complex of workshops.

Diversification at the lighter end of industry is painfully slow, and has tended to centre on the needs of the building industry: four cement works are either under construction or completed, one each at Ras al Khaymah, Sharjah, Dubai and Al Ain; Dubai is to have an aluminium extrusion plant and Sharjah a ready-mixed concrete plant. Apart from that there is little else except the occasional bakery and soft drink factory or plastics and paint factories.

A severe constraint on all industry in the emirates is labour. Indigenous labour is scarce and even the large influx of immigrants, who now significantly outnumber emirate citizens, has been insufficient to cope with the demand.

The emirates lean heavily and will probably continue to do so for some considerable time on immigrant labour and the skills, technology and management abilities of expatriates. Heavy labour is largely done by Pakistanis and Iranians, many Indians and a smaller number of Pakistanis are to be found in the clerical classes, while a high proportion of Europeans is to be found in management.

The English are thick on the ground in the offices of the many consulting engineering partnerships which design the major construction works and it is said that Scots almost run Dubai.

Most of the alien population is attracted by the fairly high salaries, although what is regarded as high is only relative to where one has come from; thus the 23 dirhams a day basic for labourers (about £18 a six-day week) is not a great deal, but clearly attracts many immigrants from Pakistan.

Precisely what proportion of the population is immigrant is impossible to say, since the UAE Government has just dropped a bombshell on the demographers by announcing that the census now shows a total population of 655,937, a considerable difference from the 1974 estimate which put the figure at about 350,000. Previously it had been assumed that the number of immigrants was roughly equal to the difference between the 1974 figure and the earlier (1968) estimate of 180,000. But everyone is now waiting to see the detailed census figures before they make rash statements of any kind about the population and racial breakdown of the emirates.

What will happen to the emirates when the oil runs out? The main resources, in Abu Dhabi, probably have at least another 50 to 75 years' life in them and there could be other finds. But eventually the UAE will have to find a new way to make a living.

It is perhaps unfair, after less than five years have elapsed since the UAE's formation, to expect anyone to have any clear idea of how such apparently long-term problems are to be solved. The Arabs are still enjoying the first flush of excitement which comes with a boom and there is not much strategic thinking being done yet about what comes next.

Almost the only discernible policy to cope with the long term is the Government's apparent determination to build up a "pension fund" for the future by investing a proportion of its funds overseas. What is disturbing about this policy is the implicit assumption that this type of investment is somehow fire-proofed.

If nothing else we have surely learnt in the past few years that the laws of economics are not immutable. Ironically, perhaps, the oil-producing nations were to some extent instrumental in bringing about the circumstances which have taught the industrialized world this lesson. The question is: have the Arabs also learnt this lesson?

In the case of the emirates the next few years will show. For the moment the UAE Government and the various state administrations are still working on a trial and error basis. They are still trying to build a mid-twentieth century economy almost from scratch.

Oil firms still welcome

by Roger Vielvoye

The two consortia of western oil companies operating in Abu Dhabi have been engaged over the past eight months in a series of complex but intermittent talks with the Government over the form future relationships between the groups and the state should take.

The two groups, Abu Dhabi Petroleum Co (ADPC) and Abu Dhabi Marine Areas (ADMA) are 40 per cent owned by the big international oil groups with the remaining equity in the hands of the Government.

Unlike the other Gulf countries where most of the negotiations between the company and government over the past year have centred on the various states' desire to convert their 60 per cent holdings into 100 per cent control of the operating companies, Abu Dhabi has said publicly that it does not want to increase its holding in these two consortia.

Mana Said al-Otaiba, the Oil Minister, has said on several occasions that he wants the companies to stay in Abu Dhabi with an equity share in the consortia, continuing to put up their share of new investment capital.

But most important, Abu Dhabi wants the companies to remain because they have the technical skills to operate the difficult fields. Offshore, particularly, the structure of the oil reservoirs is complex and needs continual expert attention if output is not to fall.

Even the companies, with their years of operating difficult oil reservoirs, have been stretched to keep the oil flowing in the volumes planned. There is plenty of oil; the problem is getting it out of the ground.

Already millions of dollars have been invested in additional production equipment to improve the flow of oil but it is thought that even more work and capital investment will be needed in the future.

Abu Dhabi's independent stance on participation comes at a time when one of its close neighbours, Kuwait, has reached an agreement with British Petroleum and Gulf Oil that gives the Government 100 per cent control of the Kuwait Oil Company. Farther up the Gulf, Iraq has taken over the oil companies' remaining foothold in the country but more important its immediate neighbour, Saudi Arabia, is in the final stages of negotiating to take over the oil companies' remaining 40 per cent share in the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco).

In the past Abu Dhabi and the other emirates have been greatly influenced in oil policy decisions by the actions of their powerful neighbour. At the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) the UAE has tended to back up the Saudis particularly on the question of prices.

Saudi Arabia's determination to win 100 per cent control of Aramco, the world's largest oil producing company, is unlikely to divert Abu Dhabi from its decision to maintain an oil company stake in ADPC and ADMA.

As well as the need for company help and expert knowledge in the maintenance of existing secondary recovery programmes and the installation of new projects, there are also problems with the high gas to oil ratio that has developed in some reservoirs which need the attention of experts from the international groups.

Last autumn concern at the behaviour of these reservoirs grew to the point where the production ceiling was reduced from 1,500,000 barrels a day to 1,350,000 barrels a day on a temporary basis. Problems with production combined with a slump in demand at the beginning of the year before Abu Dhabi reduced its quality differentials, led to an overall decline in output last year.

Annual figures were helped by a recovery in demand during December when output rose to nearly 1,600,000 barrels a day. The final outturn was 1,402 million barrels a day compared with 1,414 million barrels a day in 1974, but it was still above the 1,302 million barrels a day in 1973.

Abu Dhabi Petroleum in which the oil company equity is held by BP, Shell, CFP, Mobil and Exxon still produces more than half the country's oil from the onshore fields. Output in 1975 dropped to 896,000 barrels a day from the peak of 917,000 the previous year.

The output figures of Abu Dhabi Marine Areas (owned jointly by the Government, BP, CFP and a group of Japanese companies), reflected both the slump in demand and the difficulties with production. Output, which reached a peak at 500,000 barrels a day in 1973, slipped to 458,000 barrels a day in 1974 and went even lower to 422,000 barrels a day last year. The French-led CFP group increased its production from about 17,000 barrels a day to more than 60,000 barrels a day while Abu Dhabi Oil's output remained static at an estimated 20,000 barrels a day.

Abu Dhabi, also, has large reserves of natural gas. But as in all the Gulf countries there is difficulty in disposing profitably of the quantities produced in association with crude oil, and a large amount is still burnt off daily.

A number of structures containing gas without oil have been found but in view of the problems of disposing of the supplies found in association with crude oil, no attempt has been made to develop these reservoirs or undertake an accurate survey of their size. Some experts rank these in the same class as Groningen in Holland and Hassi-R'Mel in Algeria, which are among the largest in the world.

Plans to develop gas found in association with oil from ADPC's onshore fields received a setback last year when the oil company members of the consortium withdrew after a disagreement on commercial prospects for the development programme.

Development plans started modestly in 1972 with proposals for a $120m plant. It has since been expanded and now has a proposed capacity of five million tons a year of natural gas liquids and condensate and two million tons of liquid petroleum gas. According to the Government the withdrawal of the companies makes no difference and it may proceed alone or with other partners.

The cause of the withdrawal by BP, Shell, CFP, Exxon and Mobil, was the

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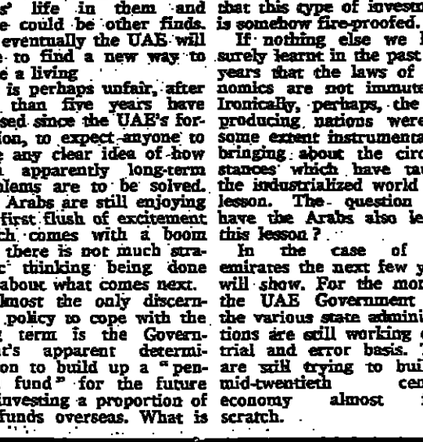
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Blurred line between government and governed

by Ann Fyfe

Only a small section of the political stage is occupied by formal political bodies in the UAE, much of them presenting and satisfying of demands taking place as it does directly between rulers and ruled, and most material needs being easily met in a country with a small population and a revenue surplus.

Citizens with a point to make will often go directly to the Ruler's *majlis* and tell him about it in a natural and unceremonious way inconceivable in a larger community but, of course, non-citizens do not automatically have the same unquestioned access. The gap between government and governed is small and the dividing line blurred, in that members of the families which make up the community are just as much part of the process of government, by means of their direct relationship with the shaikhs, as any formally constituted body.

With the increasing complexity and volume of legislation and administration, however, the body which scrutinizes the legislature, the National Assembly, is growing in stature particularly in its current session, and, as a result of its probing, the Council of Ministers, the equivalent of the British Cabinet, is explaining its decisions more publicly. Presiding above the Council of Ministers is the Supreme Council of the Federation, that is the seven shaikhs of the seven emirates, who take decisions by unanimous vote and preside over the fate of the federation itself.

Most legislation is originated by the Council of Ministers but all draft bills go to the Assembly for examination and are sent to specialized subcommittees dealing with subject-headings like finance, social affairs and planning. Under the present temporary constitution, the Assembly has no power formally to initiate Bills but informally it often does put forward suggestions to ministers. Although the 40 Assembly members are not elected at present but nominated by the rulers of the emirates—eight each from Abu Dhabi and Dubai, six each from Sharjah and Ras al-Khaymah and four each from Ajman, Umm al Qaywain and Fujayrah—there is no question of its being a rubber stamp.

When a Bill is being debated on the floor of the Assembly, the relevant minister is summoned and questioned; amendments, if any, are then put to him. The minister is expected to cooperate and in something like 90 per cent of cases, does so. Individual members can at any time table a question to a minister and then have a constitutional right to a written or verbal reply, on which he can then comment. Theoretically, the Government can pass legislation when the Assembly is not sitting, but it would be courting controversy if it ever did so and in any case this loophole may or may not be left open in the new permanent constitution, now being drafted, which must come into effect by December 1.

Members of the Assembly tend to be young to middle aged and are selected by the rulers in accordance with the Islamic criterion of "men of good judgment". It is not their rulers for whom they speak, however—the rulers speak for themselves in the Supreme Council—again in the nature of this type of society the members are permanently in contact with members of the public, who know the members personally and have no reason to be reticent in presenting their views to them. Eventually, no doubt, there will be elections; these might change a few faces in the Assembly, but not its character, which is already representative in a meaningful sense.

Which issues does the Assembly feel most concerned about? As a federal body it is vitally concerned with hastening the seven states into what they consider a stronger federal system. This means it asks embarrassing questions about the armies, of which there are three instead of one, and about the coordination of planning throughout all the emirates, particularly as far as industrialization is concerned. Transferring real powers over defence and industrial planning is right at the heart of the federal issue and attracts a great deal of press coverage. Other issues which crop up are controlling immigration—the first major piece of legislation the Assembly threw out was a draft nationality law chasing up delays in the implementation of approved projects, and keeping the utility services, power and water, on their toes.

But in its reply to the presidential speech earlier this month the Assembly launched into a surprise attack on the role of foreign businessmen in the commercial life of the country, calling for legislation to curb foreign business. This was quite radical in the local context and it remains to be seen what the Government response will be.

The principal organ of the press itself is the Ministry of Information's daily *Al-Ittihad* (*The Federation*), although there is one other major daily and three fledglings, all of which are soon to benefit from government aid. *Al-Ittihad* gives detailed coverage of each Assembly session, voices anxieties about the rent situation and inflation in general and carries out its own investigations when services break down. But arguably its main contributions to political life are two columns which appear irregularly on the front page, one of which drums up public attention to federal issues before the Supreme Council meetings and one which is written in the local and usually spoken Gulf Arabic vernacular and takes a consistent Ombudsman-style line against excesses of bureaucracy.

For the rest of the arena, the armies, apart of course from the issue of their federalization, are not a factor; there are no recognizable parties although ad-hoc factions form on different issues, and no trade unions, although a draft labour law now before the Assembly grants a limited right to organize to UAE citizens only; granting this to the immigrant work force would be extremely contentious.

The debate on another paragraph in this same law sparked off a fierce controversy which will serve to illustrate the deepest dialectic in the political debate in the UAE. Unexpectedly, a member of the Assembly demanded an amendment be tabled stipulating that any woman wishing to work must show the prior consent of her guardian. Did Islam give woman an equal right to work or did it place her firmly under the guidance of men? Did allowing local girls to work in the media and other professions outrage the traditions of the people? How would an amendment like this affect the country's image in the international community?

After a particularly heated debate during which the Minister of Labour expressed his fervent hope that the day would soon dawn when a woman minister took her place on the Council, the amendment, despite the Assembly President's support, was defeated by 31 votes to six with three abstentions.

Shaikh Zaid, the UAE President, has said that the new constitution will be based on the principles of Islam, which would mean that consultation with men of good judgment and the accessibility of the Ruler to his people would remain at the core of the political process. Elections are probably some way in the future as yet but needs, at least on the local scene, appear to be successfully transmitted and met without them at present. If the country's rapid physical growth were to erode the accessibility of the Ruler this could cease to be so, and of course not all the non-citizens have this direct facility. By next year's report, the constitution will be available to show how the rulers intend to allow the political bodies to develop.

Welfare without qualms

Civil servants administering the UAE's social welfare system are faced with a situation which in two fundamental respects is the opposite of that prevailing in Britain. First, their financial reserves are not scarce and, second, informing the public of its entitlements is not a difficulty in this small community and the public is not squeamish about claiming them.

In Islam, aiding the less well off is a basic and unavoidable obligation and the disadvantaged have a literally god-given right to expect help. Ministry of Social Affairs programmes are only one of the alternatives open to a citizen wanting help, however; people still commonly approach the shaikhs and present their needs directly.

The same does not apply to non-citizens. Expatriates from Europe and America usually have their needs taken care of by their companies, but the large immigrant workforce from the Indian sub-continent have only limited access to welfare benefits. Their standard of living has been badly affected by inflation, over the past two years, particularly in regard to rents and food. The situation is now being reviewed, however.

Operating in Abu Dhabi : all hospital treatment in the emirates is free.

A citizen on a low income can improve his lot by either applying for a plot of land and a loan with which to build a house on it (which he must occupy) or he can move into a house on a low-cost development scheme. Once installed, he gets free electricity and water (both of which are otherwise very expensive) and a furniture allowance.

When he marries and starts a family, his wife has free ante and post-natal care (all hospital treatment is free to citizens and non-citizens and can include treatment abroad) and then, when the children are older, the family receives a minimum cash incentive of 70 dirhams a month (just under £10) to send them to school. This figure rises through successive grades to 500 dirhams a month if the child stays on until secondary school and is paid in addition to the child's own pocket money from the state. Textbooks and transport are free.

Should the father be unable to work because of illness, disability or old age, he receives help under the National Assistance Law; should he die or divorce his wife, the woman's future is secure. If food bills become unreasonable (which they have in the past 18 months) the housewife can go to the United Arab Emirates Trading Company, which has branches in most emirates, and stock up on rice, flour, fish, vegetables and other staples bought centrally and sold at subsidized prices, a facility also open to non-citizens.

This is not a full list. Many other benefits are available including provision for any domestic catastrophe from a disaster fund. Basically, what a needy citizen requires will be supplied.

Ministry officials do not see themselves as adjudicators struggling to allocate scarce resources. They are able to devote themselves to what they see as an educational task, particularly in health, although their activities extend from setting up youth clubs to the rehabilitation of ex-prisoners. They certainly have no trouble making contact with the deserving, who have no qualms about going to the ministry and expressing their needs.

One particular experimental venture, the mother and child centre at al-Butain, near Abu Dhabi town, has been operating for a year and, after meeting some opposition, is enough of a success to encourage the ministry to set up several more. Aiming to improve social, medical and economic circumstances for a group of about 20 families in the small catchment area, the centre's five women social workers have brought to light some fascinating implications of rapid material improvements in a traditional society. Having been introduced to modern baby care techniques, for example, the women tend to regard breast-feeding as old-fashioned and inconvenient, which is not what the social workers intended. Again, the women are starting to dislike polygamy.

With material prosperity, incidentally, dowries have risen enormously and can be as much as 15,000 dirhams. This could have had the effect of leading some young men to seek wives outside the country, not a welcome development in local opinion, but the Government has set up an inquiry into dowries with a brief to set an upper limit on them.

The social workers show educational films, advise on child care, keep track of vaccination dates, teach the women about nutrition and persuade the children to stay at school. All such efforts concentrate on improving the women's lot in the home; it is still rare to meet a local woman who seeks her career outside it.

Parallel with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the shaikhs are dispensers of alms to people in need. The shaikhs cannot avoid this; it is expected of them in Islam.

Non-citizens who cannot go to a shaikh or who are not entitled to ministry aid are in a very different situation. High rents for poor accommodation and the cost of food are their main problems. Even so, the UAE continues to attract nationals of the Indian sub-continent to such an extent that illegal immigration is proving difficult to control.

Plans to limit rent increases by statute are under discussion, but are bound to meet stiff opposition from landlords. Some officials predict that welfare benefits will be made available to immigrants, but this is a contentious issue; officials fear that mass immigration from the developing world could result. A minimum wage already exists but the right to strike does not and is not likely to be given to non-citizens by the new permanent constitution, which replaces the existing one in December.

Public spending on welfare does not come under fire on either economic or ideological grounds, and adds nothing to the budget deficit. That, in combination with the ineradicable Islamic tradition of alms-giving and taking, makes "to each according to his needs" a reality. The issue is, rather, which classes of needy are included in the welfare state.

A.F.

Oil firms still welcome

continued from facing page

obligation to market almost the entire output without being given a firm price for the gas. Company thinking also must have been influenced by the growing number of such schemes in other oil-producing countries and the prospect of over capacity in the 1980s.

Abu Dhabi with its large production, naturally dominates oil production in the United Arab Emirates. But it is not the only member with production. Dubai and Sharjah both have producing fields offshore and the exploration effort is continuing in some of the other northern emirates.

In January, the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources won initial approval for a parliamentary Bill that would decentralize relations with oil companies. Under the Bill, oil companies would have to make separate reports on oil and natural gas production to the individual emirates. Since the union there have been various suggestions for preventing Abu Dhabi from dominating the group because of the size of its exports.

Second in the emirates oil league is Dubai. All its oil comes from the offshore Fateh field which recently has had its capacity expanded from 300,000 to 330,000 barrels a day. However, output suffered last summer from a blow-out and fire that shut down two wells and affected several others.

During December production recovered to 276,000 barrels a day but the annual rate was held down to 254,000 barrels a day. Output has risen steadily from the 219,000 barrels a day in 1973. Relations between the oil company group led by Continental Oil have been good and undoubtedly have helped to keep production high against the general trend last year.

Dubai delayed taking any decisions on state participation until last summer when it concluded an agreement with the oil company group. Details have not been disclosed officially but the fast amortization provisions probably contribute to better margins for the companies than in other Opec countries.

In the northern emirates oil has been discovered in Sharjah and is being developed rapidly. Offshore loading capacity for the field is 100,000 barrels a day but production last year averaged just under 40,000 barrels daily. Completion of a third well this month on that field has pushed daily output to 50,000 barrels. Drilling is also due to begin off Al Fujayrah in the Gulf of Oman. Onshore drilling has started in Ras al-Khaymah under a joint venture by Vitol Exploration of Holland and the Government.

The author is Energy Correspondent, The Times.

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On this and the next two pages special correspondents look at the shaikhdoms which form the emirates

Dubai: standing up well to the pressures of expanding and spending

Physically, Dubai is growing so fast that two more main arteries, the Sharjah and airport roads, which at the beginning of last year had buildings scattered at intervals along them, are now wholly built up, mostly with retail showrooms. Although new office and residential property is coming on the market in quantity, the rate of new arrivals needing to be accommodated is keeping rents high and rising.

A widening range of goods is selling to more and more nationalities and the number of bank branches servicing this growth is now 100. And for all these pressures Dubai is still a pleasant place to live in; as a rule, the water and electricity services do not break down in midsummer and the bureaucracy is not nearly as bad as it might be in the circumstances.

Pace of growth slowing down

Possibly the pace of growth of consumption at least is calming down after the explosion of late 1974 and early 1975. Whereas imports doubled between 1973 and 1974, between 1974 and 1975 the increase was probably considerably less. The figure for the first eight months of 1975 is 4,400m dirhams (£550m) against 4,800m dirhams in the whole of 1974; cargo handled at Port Rashed grew to 3,200,000 shipping tons in 1975 against 2,500,000 in 1974 but that figure showed an increase of a million over 1973.

Over those first eight months Japan was the main supplier with 19.9 per cent of the market but Britain's 18.8 per cent share was up on 1974; the United States came third. Britain's exports to Dubai in the 12 months to December 1975 stood at £105m, a very competitive increase of 95 per cent on 1974: of this total, machinery and transport equipment both had the largest share and grew at the fastest rate.

Port Rashed itself is being extended to 37 deep-water berths by the addition of 22 berths to the existing 15 under an £85m contract awarded in January to the Costain-Taylor Woodrow joint venture, the same which is building the dry dock. Waiting time at the port is two or three days at present but a surcharge of 10 per cent is in force.

The port road is becoming another main show-room and office area and the 33-storey trade centre on the roundabout opposite is progressing fast. Scheduled to open late next year, this £56m facility, the tallest building in the Middle East, will house a conference centre, a 300-room hotel and business and leisure amenities.

Last autumn the Jebel Ali earth satellite station was opened, making telephone communications, which were already quite good, rather better. Dubai international airport is becoming quite crowded now at peak periods and the Government is considering the need for a second terminal and extra cargo facilities.

Getting around within Dubai ought to have become easier when the second carriageway of the bridge over the creek was opened last year and the Shindagha tunnel under it opened in January, but the volume of traffic is growing fast, making parking almost an impossibility on a working day in Deira, the commercial centre, but a tender is out for two multi-storey car parks. The second bridge nearer the inner end of the creek is nearing completion and the road to Abu Dhabi is now dual carriageway all the way except for a few kilometres.

Jebel Ali, site of the satellite along the Abu Dhabi road, is also the site of Dubai's biggest industrial project, the £150m aluminium smelter being designed by British Smelter Construction, which has 20 per cent of the joint company Dubai to the Government's 80 per cent. It has not yet been revealed how this energy-intensive plant is to be fuelled, but a final decision is expected within the next few months. There is talk of an industrial port for Jebel Ali to serve the smelter and other projects destined for the same area, but no consultant has been formally appointed yet.

Work is well advanced on the two other giant state-sector ventures, the gas liquefaction plant and the cement factory. Sunningdale Oil has designed the former, which is a joint venture with the Government, the main contractor is Hudson Engineering of Houston, and construction contracts go our next month.

A 60-mile pipeline will bring petroleum-associated gases from the offshore oil fields to the plant which will produce 700,000 tons a year of lpg for export and 80million ft of dry gas a day for Dubai's use, probably in power generation. The cement plant has a capacity of 500,000 tons a year and is due for completion, like the lpg plant, in 1978.

Several attempts to quench fire

Oil production is said not to have suffered as a result of the blowout last July at a platform (not a producing platform) at the offshore field and is now said to have hit the 400,000 barrels a day mark for the first time. Dubai Petroleum Company, which operates all the fields, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Conoco and operates the concession on behalf of itself, CFP, Hispanoil, Deutsche Erdol (a subsidiary of Texaco), Dubai Sun Oil and Delfzee (a subsidiary of Winterschall) each of which holds 30, 25, 25, 10, 5 and 5 per cent of the concession respectively.

Several attempts had been made to put the fire out, including at least one by the renowned Red Adair team but the fire died suddenly of its own accord after a violent storm at sea last month.

Two new concessions onshore were awarded last year to Dubai Texas Pacific.

One hundred bank branches are licensed to open in Dubai, representing 35 banks compared with 28 this time last year. The additions are all locally incorporated because of the moratorium on foreign banks; pressure from Lebanese-based banks to be allowed to open was said to be very great during the crisis there but the moratorium held. Dubai and the northern emirates extend 65 per cent of all credit outstanding in the UAE, but the slight switch from trade to construction, reported last year, continues.

In the Dubai sector, 61 per cent of credit at September 1975 was for trading enterprises against 66 per cent at the end of 1974 and 67 per cent at the end of 1973. Conversely, 15 per cent of loans in the Dubai sector at the end of September 1975 were destined for construction compared with 12 per cent in December 1974. In Abu Dhabi the positions are reversed at present but there too construction is absorbing ever more of the total credit.

People arriving in Dubai are faced with high rents but European expatriates do not normally pay their own rents. It has been the Asian immigrants in the *souk* who have been hit much harder by the increases in rents and other prices. Apart from accommodation, public services are good by any standards; the existing Rashed Hospital is excellent and another 600-bed general hospital for the Deira side of the creek is on the drawing board.

Tenders for the 180 MW steam power-generation and desalination plant designed by Kennedy and Donkin closed in February and work is due to begin in summer. But Dubai is already better off than the other the emirates in that midsummer power-cuts are taken for granted, which is not always the case in this part of the world.

Because Dubai is so attractive a proposition for the expatriate businessman and his family in relation to the rest of the Gulf, businessmen and their families are still arriving literally in their thousands. Hotel corridors and office-block lifts are crammed with men in grey suits carrying Samsonites and the shops and restaurants are full of elegant Lebanese women in midi-length skirts buying couture clothes and accessories.

Bagpipes sound in Jumeirah

Tolerant of all comers, no resident of Dubai blinks an eye on Burns night as the sound of the bagpipes rises about Jumeirah from the Caledonian Society chieftain's house. All manner of clubs and societies, three English-language libraries, church services for small Asian denominations, hotels, restaurants, shops, theatre, international trade exhibitions and fairs, teeming dhows and *suks*, the *muezzins* and baggy-trousered Baluch keep this melting pot on the boil; the citizens and the better-off immigrant population is happy to make the most of it while it lasts and it does not look like ending.

Small states where life has changed the most

It is in these three small emirates of Ajman and Umm al Qaywayn, in the northern sector, and Fujayrah, on the east coast, that life styles have changed most since federation. Federal expenditure on roads, schools, houses, clinics, electrification, agriculrure and fisheries has not only transformed the lives of the fishermen and farmers who still form most of the population, but has given others employment in the Civil Service and has attracted back in number those who in the past left for the surrounding Arab countries in search of better opportunities.

It has been possible once or twice in the past year to drive past a village of *barasti* huts in the interior one weekend and a concrete community with neat rows of air-conditioned houses, a school and, invariably, a bright new mosque, the next. Not that any corner of the land is so bright just now—the whole United Arab Emirates is splattered with mud after an exceptionally cold, wet winter. A wet winter engenders the same euphoria there as a dry summer in Britain. Some attitudes have not changed.

Despite all the construction activity, the small emirates are less frenetic and more aesthetically pleasing (to a European eye) than their big sisters in the federation. There are still fishermen fishing and farmers farming and long-eared goats peering with distaste at the Buicks in the narrow streets.

Until recently Ajman's population was dependent almost entirely on fishing but is now divided between fishing, the administration and some factories. Improving the creek is the main project under way; training walls have been completed and the second stage, extending the walls and dredging the creek to a depth of 17ft, is about to start.

One of the largest fish-meal plants in the emirates is also to be sited in Ajman. Work on the ship repair yard, Ajman's small dry dock, is coordinated with the phases of the creek development but, when complete, the yard will build and repair boats of up to about 7,000 or 8,000 tons, which at present have to go to Bandar Abbas on the Iranian side for maintenance.

Called Arab Heavy Industries (AHI), the ship repairing company is a joint venture between the Government of Ajman and six Japanese concerns, the largest of which is Mitsui, which will have the management contract. Shares are on sale to the public and AHI was one of the first companies to be quoted in Dubai's newly-functioning stock exchange.

Apart from its own small dry dock, Ajman now has its own bank, the Ajman Arab Bank, which is also publicly quoted and which is supported by the Government and a small American bank whose director is now financial adviser to the ruler.

Eleven other banks have opened there so far, the manufacturing enterprises they finance include a small insulating materials company and a plastic pipes factory. On a larger scale two companies are exploiting Ajman's vast resources of high-grade marble, but there are mountains of marble still untapped inland.

Ajman's two inland dependencies, Masfut and Manama, are both largely agricultural but the former has a bottling plant which bottles local mineral water, which is unique to Masfut. This is exported to the other emirates and the Gulf, where it is fashionable to have mineral water on the dinner table.

Manama's livelihood is based on its date gardens, but as in the other more remote corners of the emirates, concrete buildings are spreading fast.

One of the most eye-catching agricultural projects in the country is Ajman's Gogoba tree scheme. Developed by the University of Arizona's Arid Lands Research Centre, the shrub has a lifespan of 300 years during which the leaves provide valuable animal nutrition while the seeds bear a type of vegetable oil particularly suitable for use in the production of lubricants, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. Seeds have just been purchased for planting in an experimental station in the town of Ajman.

Oil from the oilfields in Abu Dhabi, rather than that which grows on trees, will be brought to Ajman to fuel a projected 200,000 barrels a day refinery, studies for which are to be complete in the middle of this year. The project has a 55 per cent government shareholding and 45 per cent belongs to a Hongkong based petroleum concern.

Umm al Qaywayn's big news since last year is also oil; United Refining, as operator, started drilling in the offshore field two months ago. Onshore, a new concession has just been awarded to Houston Oil and Minerals. As in the other two small emirates, however, Umm al Qaywayn is basically a fishing community and its population benefits greatly from the credit and technical services provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There, too, the creek is being dredged by the same consultants, Halcrow Middle East, and contractors, Six Construct, as in Ajman, both being federal projects. A small cargo port is to be built when the creek is complete and a 300 tons a day fish oil factory designed by Norconsult of Norway is out to tender.

A sailing and water skiing club has its headquarters in Umm al Qaywayn which is a picturesque town both offshore, where one of the islands houses a notable bird colony, and on, where a number of eighteenth and nineteenth-century watch-towers still stand, including one which was partly damaged by a British naval bombardment in the early 1800s. Two hotels are planned, one in Umm al Qaywayn and one in the inland dependency of Falaj al-Mu'alla, to be run by one of the international chains.

Fujayrah's first hotel, of about 150 rooms, is already under construction by a French company and will also be managed by one of the internationals. The east coast already attracts tourists from the cities and has real tourism potential. A small airport and seaport are under study as well as a road network linking Fujayrah and the villages of Dibba and Masafi, work on which has started.

The Tarmac road from the main body of the emirates to Fujayrah was opened last September and immediately became one of the most heavily-used stretches of road in the country. Its completion was probably one of the main events in the history of this previously isolated community where fishing and agriculture still occupy most of the population of 26,500.

Reserve Gas and Oil start drilling in May, however, and a new onshore concession is being negotiated. After that there is talk of a large cement plant. Fujayrah is under new management, so to speak. The new young ruler, Shaikh Hamad who succeeded his father just over 12 months ago, came to prominence late in 1975 when he followed the example of Shaikh Sultan of Sharjah and abolished Fujayrah's own flag in favour of the federal tricolour.

It is hard to think of a parallel occasion when so much has changed in so short a time. Roads, contact with outsiders, schools, material comforts are all having predictable and not so predictable effects; but in these tiny shaikhdoms the ruling families still know every member of every household by name and that is their strength.

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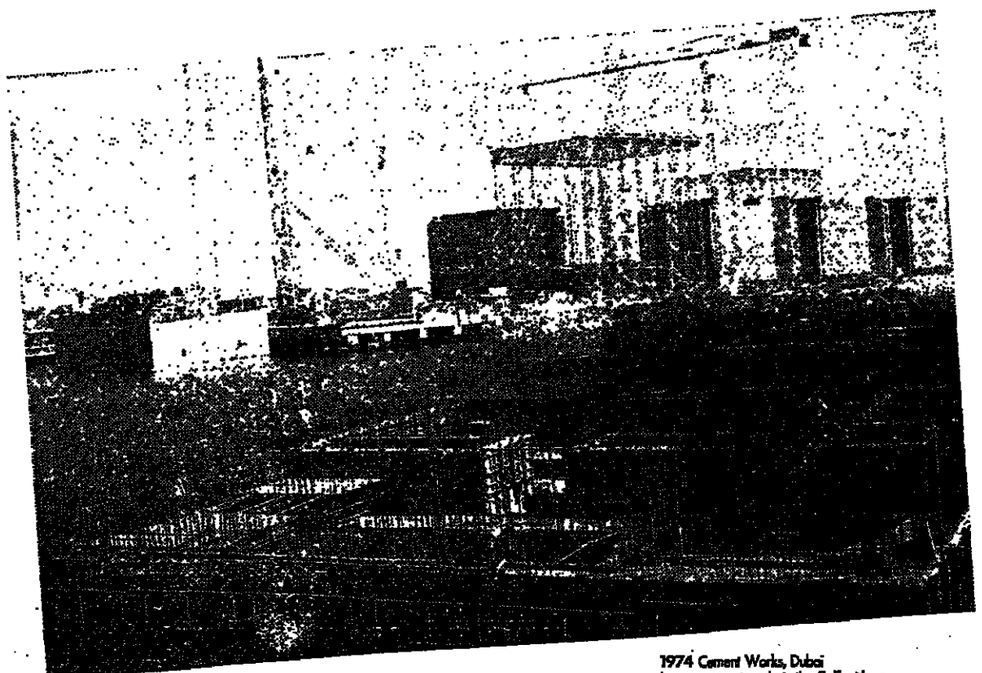

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1971 Deira Sea Corniche
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1972 Deira-Shindagah Tunnel, Dubai
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1973 Boys' School, Sultanate of Oman
Boarding school complex near Muscat.

1973 Oil Production Unit, Das Island
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Abu Dhabi: move to resolve hotel crisis

Abu Dhabi has been much exercised again over the past 12 months by the struggle to maintain the high standard of living in the capital in the face of the growth in demand for services by the local population and the ever-growing foreign communities and in the face of the rising cost of living. Electricity alone makes the Gulf habitable in the summer. The service was improved greatly in comparison with 1974, as was the water supply, but housing remains in short supply, despite the arrival on the market of dozens of new apartment blocks, and rents are a national scandal. Property is too attractive an investment, and is likely to remain so for at least the next three years or so.

Not a little of the credit for the trouble-shooting at the power stations goes to a team from Britain's own Central Electricity Generating Board imported to find out what was going wrong. Later this year, a 70 MW generation and water-desalination plant is scheduled for commissioning, but as total installed capacity is less than 200MW, 70MW extra will not fill the breach for long. A contract has just been signed, however, for a second 20MW power and desalination plant to be ready by 1979 and a third is planned.

Despite the fact that another large hotel, the Khalediya Palace, opened in 1975, it is still exceedingly difficult to find a hotel room. The Hilton is being extended by 250 rooms and the Abu Dhabi Intercontinental is scheduled for completion in 1978, after which a second Intercontinental is to be built in the oasis resort of Al-Ain. Two or three more smaller hotels and motels are planned, so the situation can only improve.

There have been no improvements in private housing and it is now possible to pay 100,000 dirhams (£12,500) a year for a new villa. While this state of affairs lasts, and its end is not yet in view, the local investor has little incentive to switch into unfamiliar manufacturing or industrial enterprise. The Government (and the local press) is well aware of the effects of soaring rents and is beginning to act; for example, a local citizen who is granted land and credit for a private house now has to show that he intends to live in it and not let it at an extortionate rent.

Other facilities have shown definite improvements on the other hand. Waiting time at the port is now a normal two or three days and there is no congestion surcharge. Seven deep-water berths are already in use and 10 more are to be added; the inner harbour is destined in addition for further development. Imports of British goods alone (the all-country total is not yet available) grew by 114 per cent in 1975, probably keeping Britain in first place as Abu Dhabi's largest supplier.

Facilities at the airport are somewhat stretched but an international competition for the design of a new one on the mainland has just been announced and the existing one is undergoing extensions. An earth satellite station is to be built to link with the Atlantic satellite, unlike the other two in the UAE which link with the Indian Ocean Intelsat 4, and will improve telecommunications over a wider sphere.

The sealed road to Qatar, which was bogged down in a salt-flat last year, has now extricated itself and is proceeding towards the border. Overland freight will be so much the quicker when it is complete and any measure which keeps down costs to the consumer is most welcome.

Big incentives necessary

Large industrial ventures at this stage are still for the most part in the state sector but the authorities are greatly concerned to encourage the private sector. Strong incentives will be required if manufacturing is to become anything like as attractive a magnet for capital as property; some which have been aired already are tax exemptions and free feasibility studies by government technicians for private ventures. A comprehensive three-year socio-economic plan comes into effect next January and each of its 13 drafting committees, which cover energy, transport, manufacturing, agricultural development, utilities and finance, includes a representative of the private sector.

Be that as it may, existing industries tend to be in the state sector and Adnoc, the state oil company, is a central pillar with its diverse activities, including its two VLCCs, its own drilling company which already has three rigs, its chemical mud company which produces a compound used in excavating, its 30 per cent stake in the oil refinery and fertilizer plants under construction near Multan in Pakistan and its participation in Egypt's Sumed oil pipeline. New Adnoc joint ventures under consideration include phosphate-based fertilizer plants in Morocco and Tunisia.

Oil production is again about 1,600,000 barrels a day and last month the new Bundug offshore field, shared with Qatar, came on stream at an initial rate of 15,000 barrels a day. All offtake from the three onshore and two offshore fields operated by ADPC (40 per cent foreign shareholders, BP, Shell, CFP and two American companies) and ADMA (foreign shareholders BP and Japan Oil Development) respectively is exported as crude except for that which feeds the small 15,000 bpd domestic refinery just starting operations on Umm al-Nar island.

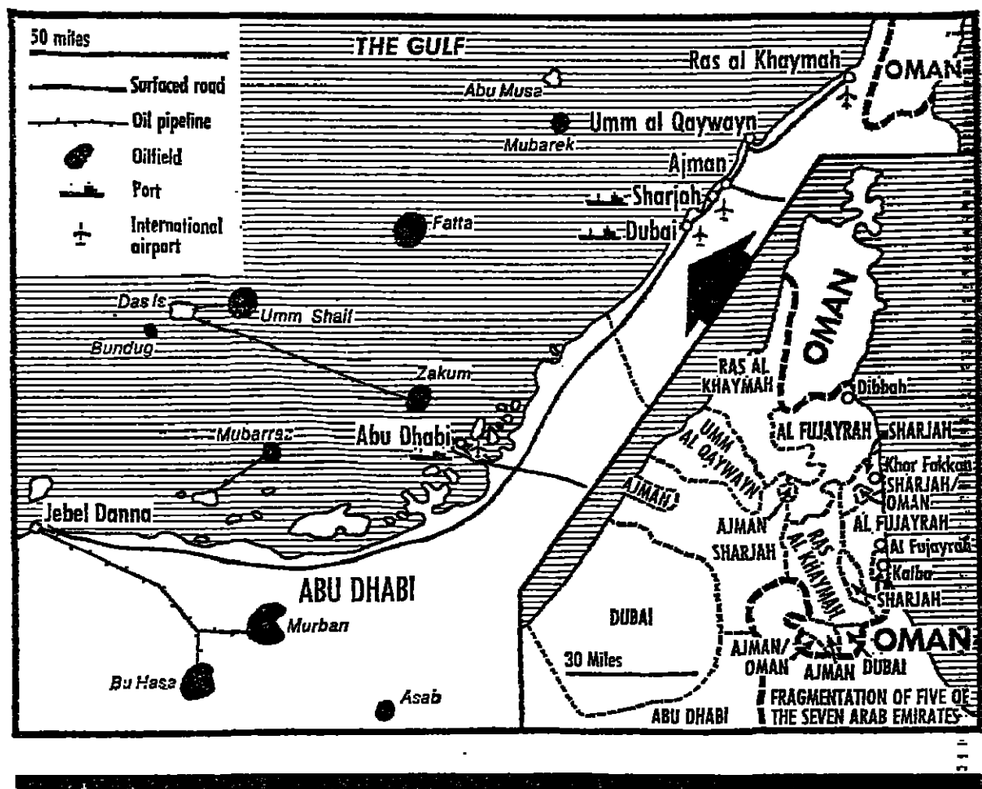
A large export refinery with a capacity of 250,000 barrels a day has been under consideration for some years but the most exciting projects in the energy sector are the $400m natural gas liquefaction plant nearing completion on Das Island, which will produce two million tons a year of lng for export to the Tokyo power authority and the massive petroleum gas utilization scheme which will gather associated gases from each of the three onshore fields and carry it to Ruwais, near the existing export terminal at Jebel Danna, where propane and butane will be extracted. The state is financing this whole scheme after the oil company concerned decided against participating. After the lpg plant is under way, dry (non-associated) gas present in large quantities at Ruwais is to be exploited as the feedstock for a million tonnes a year fertilizer plant.

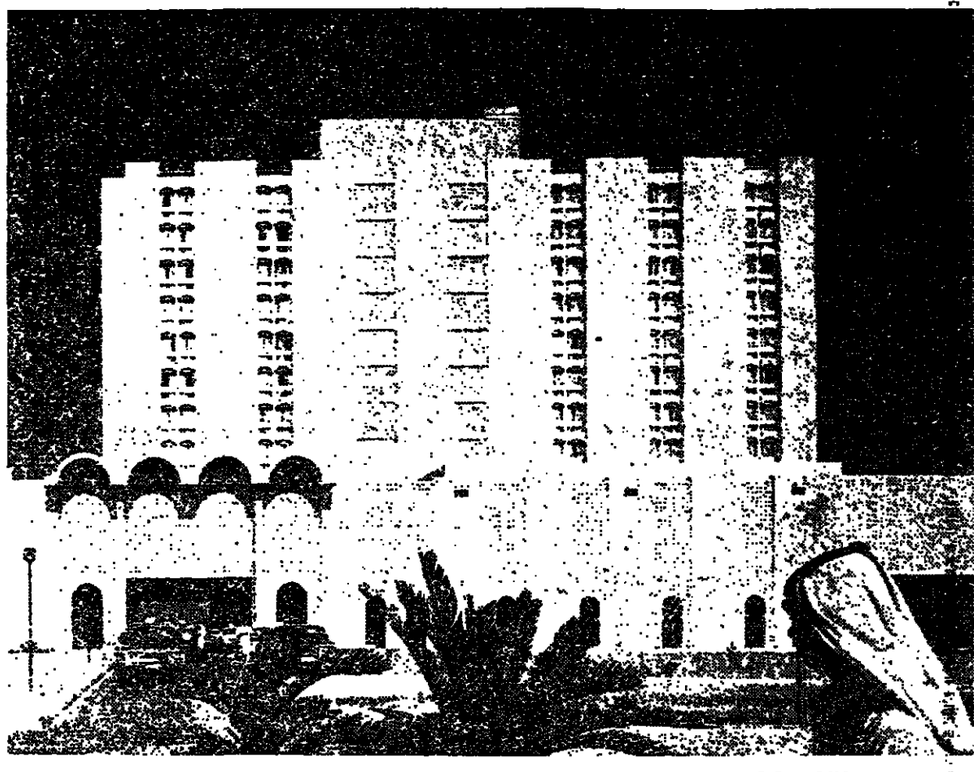
Ruwais is to have a deep-water port of its own to serve the petrochemical plants and will group together at a later stage more heavy industries, including a giant steel plant using imported sponge iron, now on the drawing board, and the export refinery, if this project is approved. Some $6,000m to $7,000m will eventually have been spent on the Ruwais heavy industry area, including access roads and other facilities.

Elsewhere, the 200,000 tons a year cement plant at Al-Ain is complete and starts construction at the beginning of April under the management of Holderbank of Switzerland, which was the consultant and which has a statutory obligation under the terms of the management contract to train UAE citizens to take over. Numerous other ventures related to the construction industry, such as steel bars, bricks and plastic pipes are at various stages of completion and others, including asbestos pipes and sheets, cement products and building materials are planned.

In addition two large contracts outside this sector were awarded recently, for a 40,000 tons a year compost plant, a 30,000 tons grain silo and 200 tons a day flour mill, all in the state sector.

Both the economic balance and even to some degree the social stability of Abu Dhabi depend to a large extent on whether or not prices, and the property boom in particular, are controlled. They will have to be controlled, if at all, from above, because market pressures are not going to ease this decade. It will not be easy for the Government to act because many of the big landlords are prominent figures in public life, but if nothing is done, industry will not attract the big capital and rents will eat further and further into the living standards of large segments of the population.





Arabs inspecting modern kitchen equipment in Abu Dhabi. Right: the Hilton Hotel which is being extended by 250 rooms.

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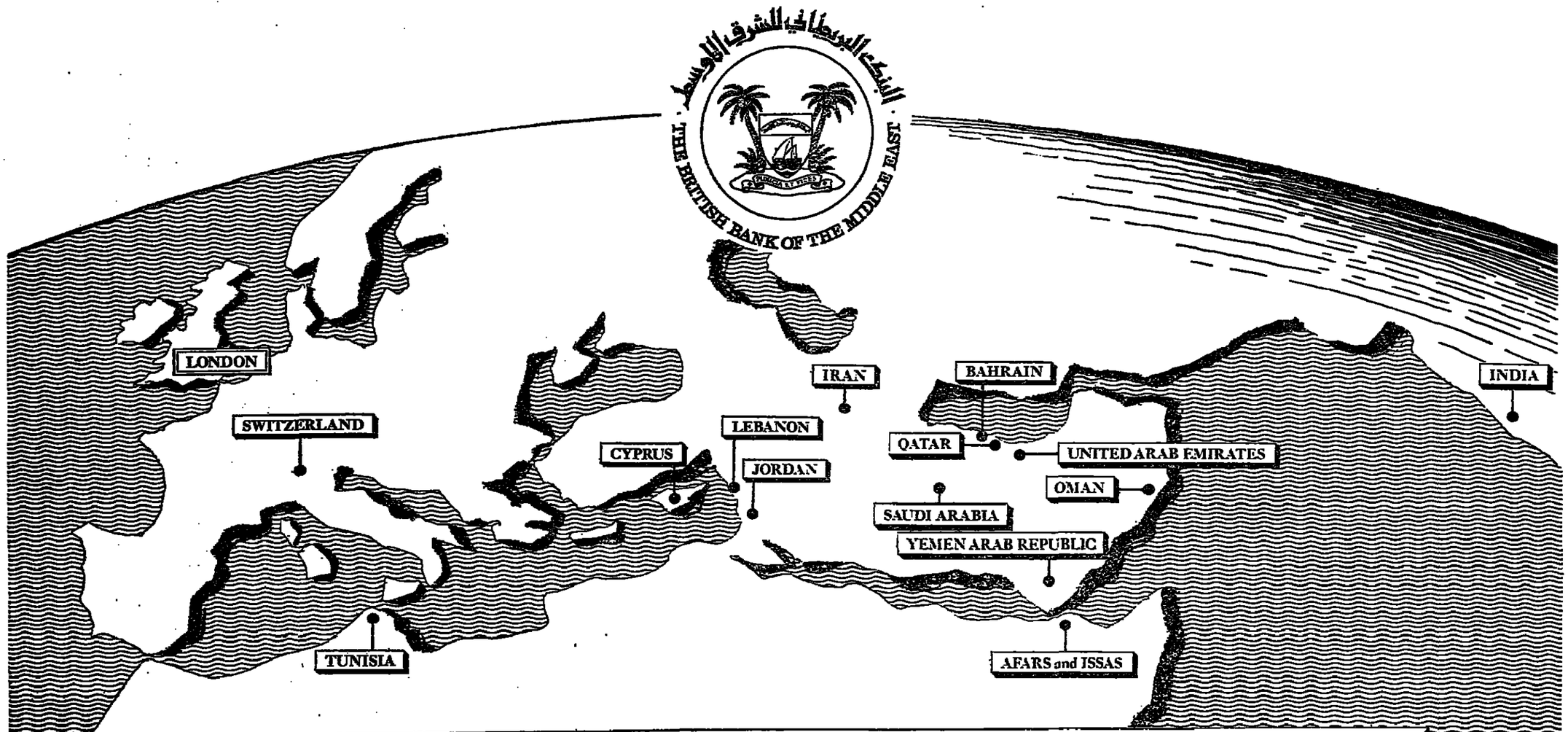

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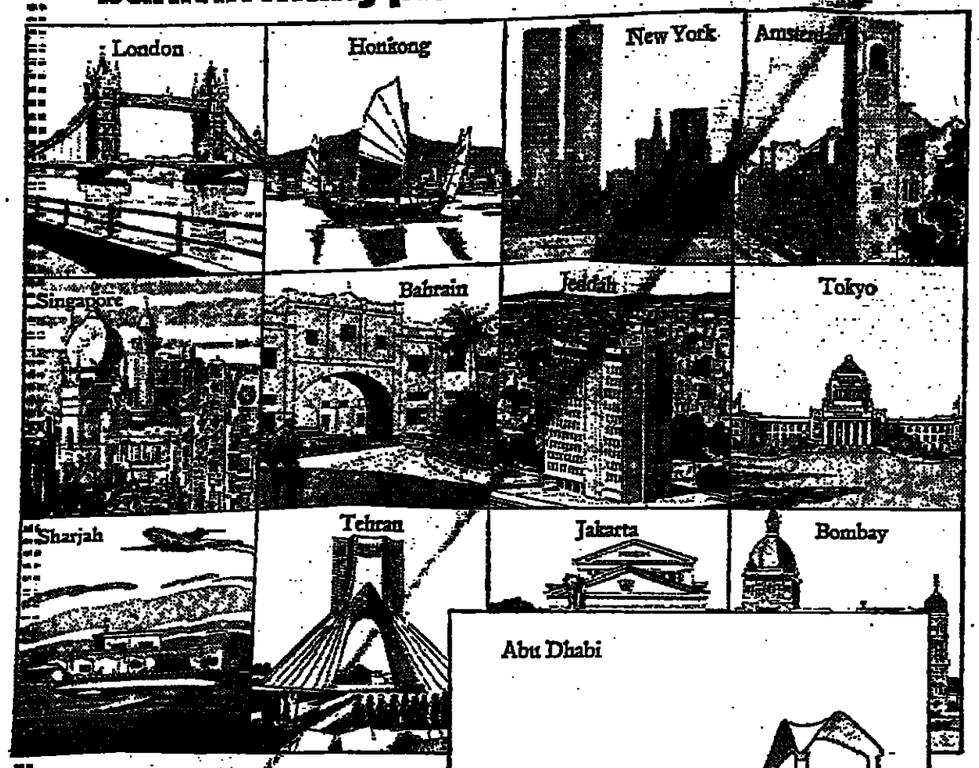

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Sharjah: fastest developer can set industrial pace

Sharjah's commercial and physical growth in the last year must have been the fastest among the seven emirates, all of which are growing rapidly. Apart from the port, airport and service industries development, most projects and existing industries are in the private sector. Banks and financial institutions, four of which now have their headquarters in Sharjah, are multiplying and large quantities of expensive residential and office accommodation are coming on to the market in line with official hopes of attracting established industries to consider the emirate as a regional base.

When the first two berths of the new port come into service in June or July Sharjah will become directly accessible for sea freight. Six deep-water berths out of a total of 12 berths will be available when the port, built by Archirodon of Greece and Hochtief of West Germany, is complete in December next year. In August this year the new airport near the Dhaidh road is due to open, and its 3.67km runway will be adequate for all the wide-bodied jets.

Within the territory, the east coast, where Khor Fakkan is destined for development as a major port, is now accessible by sealed road. To accommodate travellers who arrive at the new airport 10 hotels are planned or are already under construction. They include 250 rooms at the Holiday Inn, 330 rooms and 50 cabanas at the Intercontinental at the mouth of the creek, 250 at the Meridien on Khan beach near the existing Sharjah Carlton. All are due for completion by 1978.

One motel on Khan beach is finished and open and a similar one opposite it is half-finished. An elegant old ship is being refurbished as a floating hotel and will be towed to a lagoon anchorage. Vacant plots along the beach, which is also the site of a luxury private villa development, are to be filled by a Carlton Towers and a 250-room Trust House Forte hotel; THF is also building a 100-room hotel on Zahra Square and one of the two hotels with a total of 500 rooms planned for Khor Fakkan.

For residents, tall blocks of flats have been built all the way down the Dubai road since last summer but two enterprises have come to Sharjah specifically to cater for the luxury end of the property market. Garden City, beyond the hotels on Khan beach, at present consists of 32 villas, designed by the Professional Group of Australia, while a total of 86 are planned and a spit of land in Khan lagoon is to be reclaimed for 500 villas.

Renault has chosen Sharjah for one of its major diversification projects, an integrated office and residential community on Khan roundabout with a plaza, parking, landscaping and other amenities, the whole to be called the Charles de Gaulle Centre. Leisure facilities, including a cultural centre with a theatre, a library, two sports clubs and two luxury beach clubs are under construction.

It's ten to four in Sharjah.

The largest leisure development, however, is the Khaled lagoon scheme. The lagoon, wasteland behind the road opposite the airport, is to be dredged and supplied with a man-made island. In the middle of the island will be another lagoon, with a zoo and aquarium. A 200-metre suspension bridge 10 metres high will span the lagoon. A Japanese concern has started work on the mainland end of the suspension bridge.

Most of the mainland shore of the lagoon, the corniche, will be used for high buildings; two commercial developments, a general market and an imaginative *souk* have been designed, the latter consisting of four domed Islamic-style structures forming the corners of a square, the sides linked by bridges and the whole area decorated with mosaics and ornamental fountains.

White, Young and Partners, of Britain, were the architects. But the prestige commercial development is the Sharjah "square-mile", where 12 tall buildings out of a total of 21 are now under construction; like the City of London, this quarter will bring together all the commercial institutions and one corner, occupied by a twin-tower, will group all the banks and financial houses in one place.

Sharjah has 27 banks, including the four which have their headquarters in the emirate—the Bank of Baroda, United Arab Bank, Bank of Sharjah and the National Bank of Sharjah.

Banks are not subject to the notional 20 per cent tax on net profits applicable in the other major emirates and a number of the large international houses are moving in, notably Hedderwick Gumbar and Sterling and Canada's Wood Gundy. This development is particularly welcome to officials and is expected to accelerate.

Several notable industrial concerns have their regional headquarters in Sharjah. They include the French oil industry supplier ETPM, which is building an office block for 200 of its employees; Archirodon of Greece, a partner in the joint venture which is building the port; Six Construct of Belgium; Mothercat of Lebanon; Hempels Paints; 3M and Armco Steel of the United States.

The largest industrial project at present is the 100m dirham state-sector cement plant which is due to start operations at the end of the year with a capacity of 220,000 tons a year. But both local and foreign private sector ventures are appearing: Gulf Oil and Westinghouse are building plants. Factories for construction industry accessories, detergents and pvc pipes are also planned.

Oil is flowing at the reduced rate of 40,000 barrels a day at present because one well has been out of action. This is expected to be rectified soon and production will return to 60,000 bpd. Crescent Petroleum, an American consortium headed by Buttes Gas and Oil, is the operator of the field, off Abu Musa island in the Gulf, but a new concession onshore was recently awarded to Houston Oil and Minerals. Sharjah is not a major oil exporter and does not see its future in those terms; a proportion of its revenue is shared with Iran under the terms of the 1971 Abu Musa agreement.

Sharjah's planners are concentrating on encouraging the local private sector and attracting and providing the facilities to absorb other companies wishing to base themselves in the Gulf. Certainly the emirate has become a realistic alternative in this respect.

Ras al Khaymah: meeting fresh food needs

Since last year's progress report on the UAE, Ras al Khaymah has arrived on the industrial map, with a number of heavy plants in operation; on the physical map with its airport; and on the general-knowledge map with the arrival of rapidly increasing numbers of expatriate families.

Other major service projects are nearing completion and oil drilling is advanced, but this northernmost of the seven emirates retains its position as supplier of 50 per cent of all fresh food available in the UAE and its potential as supplier of all fresh food. The factors which make it fertile also make it pleasant to look at, with the result that tourism can be taken more seriously there than elsewhere in the Gulf.

Abundant fresh water was what originally made Ras al Khaymah different from the other emirates and agriculture or fishing still employs or supports nearly three-quarters of the population. Apart from the traditional date-gardens, now no longer a principal source of wealth to the farming families and often abandoned, Ras al Khaymah has the Digdaga experimental research station, where strains of seeds are tested in controlled conditions and where Shaikh Saqr, the Ruler, keeps a herd of English Friesians.

Selected seeds, along with fertilizers and insecticides, are made available to local farmers (at 50 per cent of cost) by the Ministry of Agriculture, which also extends credit to individuals for the purchase of water pumps and equipment. Services such as ploughing, spraying and mechanical repairs are free and Digdaga has a small agricultural college which take students from the UAE and Oman. A resident vet serves the area and his advice and facilities are often vital as the nutritional habits of the livestock leaves much to be desired. His main problem is fighting respiratory diseases and infectious enteritis. His weapons are not only antibiotics but education programmes.

French agricultural researchers of the Sodateg group have just finished a five-year plan for the exploitation of resources in the emirates, concluding that three crops a year of a range of vegetables are feasible. Tenders are out for a well-digging programme and other services; the experts say it is by no means impossible that by the end of the five years Ras al Khaymah could be meeting the entire fresh food consumption of the UAE. The high price of imported food makes that an extremely attractive prospect for the consumer.

The mountains, the plantations and the slightly cooler climate in Ras al Khaymah already draw weekend tourists from the other parts of the federation and a group of travel agents from Britain came to reconnoitre this winter. One international class hotel, run by the well-known Lebanese firm Albert Abela, has been open for some years and the contract has just been signed for the construction of the Ras al Khaymah Intercontinental, which is due to open with 250 rooms in two years' time. A British team of archaeologists is expected to arrive to examine the archaeological sites—notably a castle which may have belonged to Bilquis, the Queen of Sheba—which have not received much attention up to now despite the fact that Ras al Khaymah was well known to the harassed British Navy in the early nineteenth century and to travellers and historians since classical times.

Travellers, whether tourists or businessmen, can now fly direct to Ras al Khaymah with the opening of the international airport on March 10. Built by Mothercat with Sir William Halcrow and Partners as consultants, the airport can take all the wide-bodied jets (and Concorde). The authorities are negotiating landing rights with a number of the leading airlines in the Middle East, believed to include MEA, Gulf Air and Saudia, though at the opening Kuwait Airways provided the first passenger aircraft to land in the emirate. Mothercat, which is Beirut-based, is active in the area and forms half, with Archirodon of Greece, of the Archicat consortium which is building the 360m dirhams (£45m) deep water port, the first of whose eight berths is due to open in the middle of next year.

Complementing the transport facilities is the earth satellite station being installed by Siemens, whose dish, with a diameter of 60 metres, is one of the largest in the Middle East. Linking in with the Indian Ocean satellite, the station as a matter of policy will eventually be turned into a public company and its shares made available to local citizens.

As a result of the same policy of encouraging direct involvement by the private sector, the 700 tons-a-day Union Cement Company, now operating at full capacity, will also go public in the near future. At present owned 25 per cent by Abu Dhabi and 75 per cent by Ras al Khaymah and managed by Norcem of Norway, the plant is to be doubled in capacity to 1,400 tons a day under a plan now approved—an enormous cement plant by anyone's standards. But none of the other three under construction in the UAE is yet producing, and the federation's demand for cement is still supplied by imports in quantity.

More profitable ramifications

The general construction boom in the Gulf has had further profitable ramifications for Ras al Khaymah in that the sulphur-free rock which characterizes the mountain range is much in demand, particularly for marine construction. A six-year contract for sulphur-free rock has just been placed with the Ras al Khaymah Rock Company (also to become public) by the contractors building Saudi Arabia's giant Jubail harbour, and other rock exports go to Bahrain.

Exports of 6,000 ft a month of pipe rolled at the plant in Ras al Khaymah belonging to MacDermott, the oil industry supply concern, go to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other parts of the Middle East, and a steel recasting factory is about to open, producing steel reinforcing rods for the construction sector. Apart from construction-oriented industries, a fishmeal and fish-oil processing plant built by Fideco of Norway is to start production in August and will have its own fishing fleet of seven boats arriving between May and the opening date.

Above and behind the modernization of Ras al Khaymah, lies the prospect of significant oil production. Vitol Oil of Holland finished its seismic survey last summer and began drilling in the middle of September; first results are expected this month but Vitol is very optimistic. The oil is offshore and a second offshore concession was until recently being surveyed by Norsk Hydro, but problems in getting a drilling rig to the area have led to Norsk Hydro's pulling out, eventually to be replaced by another international prospector. By next year's progress report, Ras al Khaymah will probably be the UAE's fourth oil exporter.

Not only new industries and new developments but also very many new people have arrived in Ras al Khaymah over the past year and providing services for both the projects and the people is in the nature of things something of a race against time.

Large numbers of low-cost housing units have been distributed and a smart expatriate residential area known as Khuzam Town has grown up round the Casino, the existing hotel. French consultants Sodateg have designed Saqr Hospital, which will have 190 rooms and modern outpatient facilities; tenders for its construction are now out. Electricity supplies will be rescued by the turbine power station being built by Elin-Union of Austria in the industrial area near the port, with two units each of 33 MW to be commissioned in mid-1979. All other facilities, including roads, water and sewerage, are covered by a five-year town plan drawn up by Dar al Handasseh of Lebanon.

So one can now arrive in Ras al Khaymah by air and stay in a first-class hotel. Within a year cargoes will be able to be brought direct to the deep-water port and shortly after that satellite communications will be in reach. A developed infrastructure, accessibility, industrialization with private sector involvement and the prospect of oil revenues in the state coffers put Ras al Khaymah at least on a par with its federation partners economically and its traditional agricultural basis gives it a distinct advantage. It is a rounded emirate with a past as well as a future and considerable visual attractions both for those who live there and the hoped-for tourists.

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The United Arab Emirates
PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS
AN OUTLINE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES FOREIGN POLICY

The foreign policy of the UAE is designed to ensure the region's security and progress, symbolising the main features of the new, resurgent Emirates.

It is illustrative of the UAE's internal potentialities, reflecting the noble traits of the seven constituent Emirates' ancient heritage, and their current progress consequent upon oil wealth. The strong ties uniting the UAE itself have paved way for lasting relations with all other states, especially the Sister-Arab states.

Being a firm believer in the Arab nationalist unity, which is a cementing force embracing all Arab Countries, the UAE is proud of the historical ties binding the sister states.

The UAE is a peace loving state with no aggressive designs against any country. It stands for mutual co-operation and understanding to promote goodwill and friendly relations with all peace-loving nations. It believes in peaceful solutions guaranteeing the rights of all concerned.

ARAB NATIONALIST TIES

A distinct feature of the UAE's foreign policy is the country's firm adherence to its stand of full support, both moral and material, to the Palestinian people in their struggle to restore their homeland and to assert their right of self-determination.

The UAE promptly declared its support for the decision of the Arab Summit Conference held in Rabbat in 1974 which called for the recognition of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. The UAE's support for the struggle of the Palestinians and its concern with the objectives of Arab unity play a significant role in its foreign diplomacy. The policy is inspired by the basic principles of human rights, the U.N. Charter and the noble principles of human justice. With these ideals forming the basis, UAE foreign policy aims at an Arab unity such as would result in the victory of the struggle of the Arab states against the expansionist Zionist conquest and be conducive to the safety and security of the states against any external danger.

Keeping this objective in view, the UAE has always strived for closer co-operation with all its sister-states. The strong basis for closer co-operation stems from the feeling that all the Arab States have nationalist aims and a common destiny. In this direction, many bilateral agreements have been signed with all Arab countries, covering the fields of economic development, information and culture. The UAE has also promoted, in collaboration with many of its sister-countries, common industries, banks and investments that will surely be of mutual benefit and profit.

CO-OPERATION IN THE GULF AREA

Since the UAE is an important and vital part of the Gulf area, it pays a great deal of attention to the promotion of cordial relations with its neighbours. The UAE has successfully removed all its differences and obstacles hampering its relations with Saudi Arabia, which has now turned out to be a great supporter of the UAE. This relationship has ushered in an era of full co-operation in the fields of politics and economics. The visit of His Excellency Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Heir Apparent and First Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, to the UAE was clear evidence of the improved relations. Since then, top dignitaries of both countries have exchanged a number of visits.

Side by side, the UAE maintains close co-operation with the Gulf states in the economic, cultural and information fields. Many agreements have been signed, including those concerning co-operation in the fields of petroleum, finance and currency. The country discusses with its neighbours the issues of petroleum in order that a common oil policy may be followed. A number of banks have been established with capital shared between these countries. Of late, a move is afoot to adopt a common currency for the entire Gulf region. The UAE stresses the need for full understanding of the common issues in the Gulf, while believing that each state should enjoy its independence.

ROLE IN THE ARAB LEAGUE

The UAE is an active member of the Arab league, fully co-operating with all League members. While refraining from any interference in the internal political conflicts of other states, the UAE brings closer Arab points of view, making the best use of its esteemed status. The UAE is also an active member of the different specialised agencies of the Arab League, playing constructive roles in the political, economic and cultural fields. The exchange of expertise in developmental projects is well established.

LINKS WITH THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The UAE has relations with the Islamic world both in the East and the West, paying due attention to its relationship with the Islamic countries in Asia and Africa. The UAE shares its points of view with the Islamic World through the General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference, of which it is an active member.

The UAE has diplomatic relations with almost all Islamic countries with the aim of strengthening religious and historical ties. The bonds of co-operation with these countries will be further strengthened by the visit of UAE diplomatic missions in the near future. The UAE is helping to implement a number of projects in the Islamic World. It supports the Islamic Unity Fund, the Broadcasting Union for Islamic Countries and the Islamic News Agency. Through such projects, the UAE has translated several of its plans into reality.

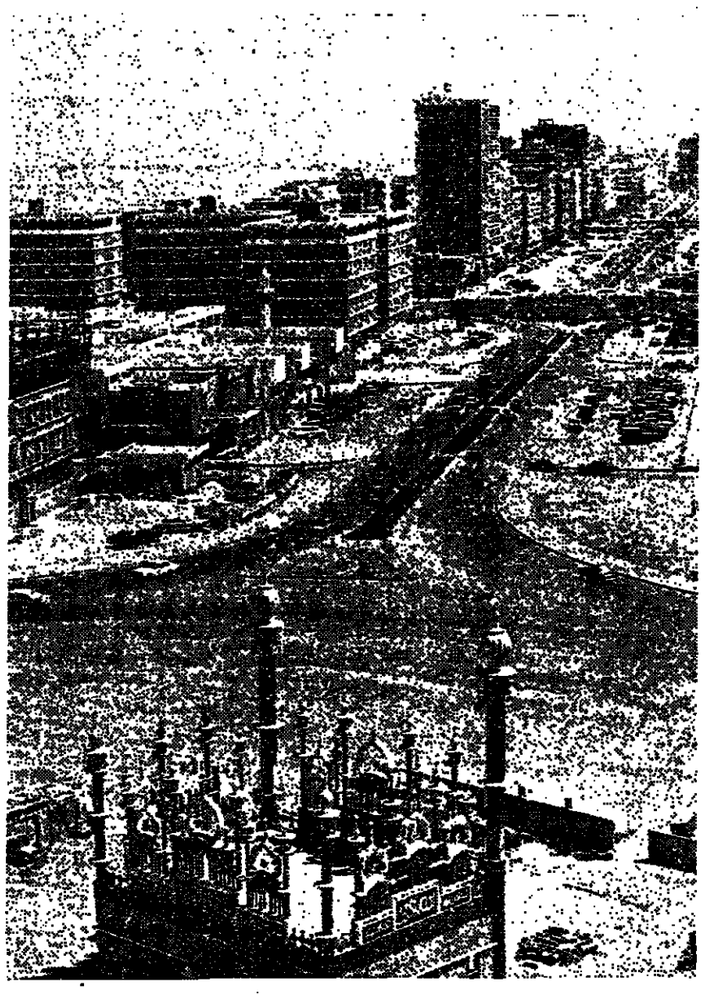
RELATIONS WITH THE NON-ALIGNED STATES

The UAE pays keen attention to its relations with the developing and non-aligned countries. As the UAE is a developing state, it abides by the major lines of policy laid down by the non-aligned bloc.

The UAE is a member of the Non-Aligned States' Movement like all other Arab countries. The state follows a clear, definite policy. It is a peace-loving state which abhores agression and military alliances. The UAE's membership in the Movement is indicative of the country's balanced policy, which essentially concures with that of the Third World.

ROLE AT THE U.N.

The UAE maintains contacts with almost all the countries of the world through the U.N. and its different agencies. On the international level, it abides by the U.N. Charter and believes that the universal organisation is an effective medium for bringing together the different nations of the world. The state considers the U.N. as the best forum to ensure social justice in the world and to remove causes of conflicts.



Soon after its formation, the UAE joined the U.N. and let the world hear its voice. The country expressed its clear policy concerning world politics and helped solve international issues.

The UAE mission at the U.N. plays an active role by explaining the country's policy through its constant participation in the discussions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. It takes an active part in discussions concerning international issues, especially the Palestine problem, the Middle East crisis, the people's right of self-determination and struggles against imperialism and racism. The UAE's denunciation of imperialism and racism is rooted in its strong belief in human rights and the U.N. Charter.

The UAE attended the U.N.-sponsored international conferences like the Third International Conference for the Sea Laws held in Geneva in March 1975 and the U.N. Conference for Combating Crimes during the Seventh U.N. extraordinary session where His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs gave a full account of the UAE policy on economic aspects, the improvement of the world monetary system and economic co-operation between developing and industrial countries.

The UAE also maintains contacts with different specialised U.N. agencies. UNICEF and WHO, from whom it gets consultant services, have representatives stationed in the state.

ECONOMIC ROLE

The economy of the UAE, boosted by its oil wealth, plays an important role in its foreign policy and its national and international objectives. The country is seriously concerned with the proper use of the oil wealth as its welfare and foreign aid programme depends totally on it. Since oil, the sole source of the UAE's revenue, is likely to be exhausted after a certain period, the country plans to diversify its industries making the best use of the wealth currently derived from oil in order to ensure its economic stability and continued progress. Foreign oil companies used to control the production, prices and marketing of oil in the UAE. As the country could not afford this to continue, the government held lengthy negotiations with the foreign oil companies to check the practice. The end result is that the government now holds the majority of the shares in the oil industry. Of late, the UAE oil policy has been shifting towards industrialisation, especially in the petrochemical field, with a view to reducing its total dependence on oil. The state assigns top priority to the distribution of resources for the benefit of its people by providing them with all social services necessary to combat disease and poverty. The aim is to ensure a dignified and prosperous life for the citizens. Next come the country's obligations towards its sister-Arab states and the developing countries. It spares no effort in fulfilling its duties towards them.

On the international level, the UAE believes that the redistribution of wealth emanating from economic transactions on the basis of justice would result in a more cordial atmosphere, avoiding disputes. If an international system, protecting the flow of commercial transactions in accordance with the interests of the less-developed countries, is established, the economic bonds and international détente can be further strengthened.

ECONOMIC AID FROM THE U.A.E.

The United Arab Emirates can claim to be, in relation to its gross national product and population, the world's biggest source of economic aid to the developing countries. Some figures were given by the H.E. Mana' Saeed al-Oteiba, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, when he addressed a seminar on problems of world health and poverty held in Vienna in August 1975. He said that the OPEC member states averaged a 6 per cent contribution from their GNP in 1974 as aid to developing countries, and the industrialized nations not more than one ½ of 1 per cent. The UAE's figure was 20 per cent in 1974 and 25 per cent in 1975.

Loans and contributions by the UAE to developing countries in 1974 totalled $554 million. The allocation for 1975 was $1,243 million.

One reason for the policy is to be found in the fact that the time of the UAE's own poverty is not by any means remote history. "We in the United Arab Emirates" said the Minister, "are fully conscious of the lot of the poor, underdeveloped countries . . . and realise that our God-given wealth is something that should be used, not only for raising the standard of our own citizens but also for helping the citizens of other less fortunate countries".

There is also an element of hard-headed and far-sighted realism in the UAE's thinking on the subject of economic aid. "In the present age", Sayyed Mana' told the Vienna seminar, "no country, no matter how secluded, can hope to exist prosperously for long when its neighbours are less prosperous or poor."

The most important instrument in implementation of the policy is the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED), established in July 1971 with an authorised capital of $120 million. The Fund ceased in July 1974 to be exclusively Arab in its field of operations. It was authorised to offer aid also to the African, Asian and other Islamic countries, and its capital was raised to $500 million. The Fund's operations can take the form of loans or participation in projects. The loans are "soft", with interest rates varying from 1¾ to 4¼ per cent, repayable over six to fifteen years and often allowing a grace period, before repayment, of from one to four years. Emphasis is laid on the fact that there are absolutely no political or economic strings.

Although ADFAED is the main channel for the distribution of the UAE's external economic aid, mention must also be made of big direct contributions to international agencies including the World Bank ($55 million in 1974 and $53 million in 1975) to individual countries and also to the General Assistance Appropriation Fund. This Fund provides aid speedily to disaster areas anywhere in the world and to countries in difficulty as a result of oil or other commodity price increases. It also makes direct gifts to countries urgently needing funds for development which they cannot confidently undertake to repay.

One aspect of the philosophy behind the UAE's aid programme is that it seeks a partnership of technology from the West and finance from Arab oil revenues to solve the development problems of the Third World. As the Director of ADFAED, Dr Hassan Abbas Zaki, explains: "We are not interested in a simple transfer of money, but in the real transfer of technology and natural resources."

In the Arab Summit Conference held in Algiers after the October war, the UAE adopted a project to support and help friendly African countries in exploiting their resources in a way that would be economically and politically beneficial to the African and Arab peoples.

As for Europe and Japan, which import most of the UAE's oil, the country attempts to emphasise the mutual interests between the oil producing, the oil consuming and the major industrial countries.

These attempts are necessitated by the fact that the industrial countries on the one hand endeavour to increase their growth, while the producing countries on the other hand seek to sell their products and get in return the technical know-how and whatever equipment, goods and services are necessary for their development.

The UAE co-operates with international institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund through which the state gives to the world as much aid as possible to help solve certain monetary problems. Such a policy is based on the country's belief that the entire world should have new economic relations characterised by justice and co-operation. The surplus oil would thus be devoted to bridge the gap between the poor and the rich for the cause of world peace, aiming at the advancement and prosperity of humanity as a whole.

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Development of road system plays major role in integration

by Malcolm Brown

Taking a taxi the 160km from Dubai to Abu Dhabi is an educational experience. First you have to do some hard bargaining with the driver before you even get into the cab. The taxi-drivers of the emirates are firm believers in the virtues of private enterprise.

Haggling, with an amazing repertoire of scowls and the occasional ferocious spit into the road if the opening offer is outrageously low, is the accepted means of setting a fare. A beginner will probably do well to get away with less than 200 dirhams, about £25. The journey is, nevertheless, worth while if only to make one understand more clearly the major role that the development of the road system has made to knitting together the diverse states of the emirates.

The visual monotony of the landscape of sand and scrub is broken only by the odd roadside debris of the all-too-frequent car accidents —Arabs drive at a hair-raising pace—or the road signs warning drivers that they are entering an area of established camel tracks and should take care. But it is a good road, dual carriageway for almost its entire length and kept in excellent repair.

Watching the jolting progress of a sturdily built jeep on one of the tracks running off the road, it takes no great leap of the imagination to see what travel was like just a few years ago before the now extensive road system was built. The pace of roadbuilding in the emirates has been rapid and within two or three years it should be possible to reach all but the tiniest of villages in the UAE on a Tarmac highway and certainly it will be open to the car-oriented occupants of the main towns to reach any of the other main centres of the emirates by road.

It is already possible to motor down the west coast from Shaam, at the border where the UAE meets the northern enclave of Oman, through Dubai and Abu Dhabi, then due west along the coastal regions to Tarif. Beyond Tarif is a further stretch to Sila which is due for completion by August.

Thereafter, provided that the dispute with Saudi Arabia over the area west of Sila does not flare up again, it should be only a short time before the west coast road runs through to Qatar and links into the trans-Arabian highway. The UAE would then have direct access through that road system to anywhere in Europe. It is thought that the connexion could be made by the end of 1977.

The east coast route is also nearly complete. Soon it will be possible to travel directly from Dibba, the northernmost of the east coast towns, straight down into the southern territories of Oman and into the Omani capital, Muscat. Engineers claim that the final section of the east coast route, from Dibba to the fishing town of Khor Fakkan, will be open by the autumn.

Between the two coastal routes lies a lattice work of east-west highways. One of the most important is the Abu Dhabi-Al Ain highway, which connects the capital with the important agricultural research centre in the Buraimi Oasis, and this is now being pushed eastwards towards Oman and the coastal town of Sohar.

Farther north in the so-called Northern Emirates, which is simply the UAE without Abu Dhabi, roads are being driven through some of the most difficult territory in the emirates. From west to east this part of the emirates consists first of a coastal strip which then merges into the desert, followed by a gravel plain, then the formidable Al Hajar mountains, which at their highest point in the emirates reach more than 7,000ft.

Despite the difficult terrain these transverse routes are proceeding at a remarkable pace. A 45km single carriageway already connects the west coast town of Sharjah—a British military base until 1971—with Dhaid, the oasis owned by Sharjah. Now a connexion between Dhaid and Fujayrah, which lies over the mountains on the west coast, is all but complete, and will be opened once a 700-metre stretch at Bithna, a date-growing village some 10 miles inland, is finished.

Some of the problems connected with road building in this region result from the nature of the terrain; others from the as yet rudimentary administrative system in the emirates which has meant that there is a lack of basic data, not so much about the region itself but about the vehicles which will be crossing it.

The major problem in the desert area is the movement of sand dunes. Anyone who has done no more than step off an aircraft in the emirates on a mildly windy day will see with what a ferocity the wind can whip up even the surface layers of sand found in the coastal strip. The same problem magnified many times faces the engineers who are designing and building the roads through the desert.

The last section of the great Arabian highway passing through the emirates and linking Oman with Europe.

When sand hits a road at speed it can do substantial damage to the surface and block the carriageway. No wholly satisfactory method has been found to counter this, although several methods are being tried. Engineers suggest that one method may be to lay bulk bitumen along the sides of the road.

Certain types of rocks in the region apparently have a low durability and construction teams have several times faced rockfalls. Water is also a hazard and at least one contractor last year had cause to rue the day when he left bridge girders and equipment in a wadi. These areas fill quickly with water when there is rainfall over the mountains. The contractor, given warning that the rains were coming, could not remove his equipment within the critical first 10 minutes and had to watch helpless as his valuable capital was swept away.

The basic lack of complexity in the administration —hardly surprising since the ministries have been in operation for only some four years—has important effects on the roads programme. One of the large gaps in the fund of basic data being built up now in the emirates is any comprehensive statistics on the axle loads of traffic travelling through the region. This can be critical in bridge design since it is necessary to know the axle load of the heaviest vehicles likely to cross the bridge. One possible solution being examined is a series of load checking stations.

Another area in which the planners appear to have been caught out is in urban road planning. The roads of the main towns are jammed with traffic, particularly those of Dubai, where it is estimated that 20,000 new vehicles a year are making use of the roads. The Arabs, who have become car enthusiasts, are bringing in new vehicles at a high rate.

Sadly this is an area in which the British appear to have lost out. The British community is heavily involved in both the design and construction of roads. But in car sales there are only two names which count in the emirates: Datsun and Toyota.

New airports may prove a turning point for aviation

Earlier this month Ras al-Khaymah airport was officially opened to traffic, bringing the tally of international airports in the United Arab Emirates to four. The other three are at Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah, which started life more than 40 years ago as a staging post for Imperial Airways. Later this year a new airport will become operational in Sharjah and by 1980 Abu Dhabi's new airport should be ready.

This development does not stop there: Dubai's facilities are to be expanded and within recent weeks there have even been rumours in the town that the whole airport might be rebuilt at a new location, freeing the existing acres for further municipal development. To cap it all, the Government of Fujayrah, the most isolated of the emirates, with a population of not much more than 10,000, is said to be considering development there, primarily for military purposes but with facilities for civil aircraft.

This profusion of airports serves a very small population—650,000 according to the latest census—so there is obviously some bewilderment among visitors to the UAE, particularly when it is realized that Dubai and Sharjah are within 20 minutes' drive of one another. Part of the explanation, perhaps, is to be found in the nature of the UAE itself. The federation of the seven emirates is still less than five years old and although there is a growing sense of cohesion among the states there is still a strong strain of individuality in each community.

Connect this to the notion of airports as international gateways and showpieces and it is not too difficult to understand some of the reasons for what has happened. Those who live in advanced industrial economies might be horrified by the cost effectiveness calculations involved, but, for the moment at least, the oil-rich emirates can afford what they choose.

The sense of individuality is to be found also in the operation of the airports. Although the UAE Minister for Communications is formally responsible there appears to be a large degree of autonomy among airport administrations. For example, negotiations with air companies about landing rights and conditions seem to be taken at local rather than national level. The continuing battle to retain this kind of independence would suggest a fear on the part of the stronger airports, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, that if authority were ceded to the UAE administrators profitability might be endangered as the UAE would almost certainly want to use its powers to spread revenues more evenly among all the airports.

Dubai is the largest of the airports in the emirates. Last year it dealt with nearly one million passengers, 30 per cent more than in 1974, and just over 12 million kilograms of freight was unloaded, 51 per cent more than in the previous year and 195 per cent up on the 1971 total. Part of the explanation for the enormous amounts of freight is that the emirates, while rich in oil, have to import almost everything else, from machinery to a high proportion of their food.

More than 20 international airlines serve the airport, including British Airways, Air France and Air India, and others are scheduled to start operations soon, among them Sabena and Lufthansa. Many of them are now flying in wide-bodied aircraft, Middle East Airlines sending in a daily Boeing 747, and KLM running at least six 747s a week. In February Gulf Air, the main operator in the emirates, flew in a Tristar to be inspected by the local dignitaries. Two Tristars are to go into operation now with another pair to follow shortly.

Apparently not affected by the cynicism which surrounds Concorde, Dubai officials say there is no reason why it should not eventually use the airport, adding cryptically that if Concorde were to be flying to the Far East Dubai would be strategically better placed than Bahrain, the present stopping point. In fact a large part of the hot weather flight trials of Concorde were carried out under the control of the Dubai Air Traffic Control area radar unit.

Abu Dhabi handles fewer passengers than Dubai but is still obviously of major strategic importance since nearly all the important UAE government offices are based in the town and the region is the centre of the main oil operations in the emirates. However, the present airport is beginning to show the strain; for an airport which purports to serve an international clientele its passenger handling facilities are extremely meagre when compared with Dubai. So Abu Dhabi does need a new airport. But does it need the mini Charles de Gaulle airport which the planners are said to have in mind?

The great bulk of the flights into and out of the emirates' airports are international and timed to fit in with international requirements. It is still possible to "town hop", for example, between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, by finding a seat on an international flight passing through both centres, but all too often this means arriving at one's destination either too early or too late. The very early office hours worked in the emirates—8 am to 2 pm in the winter, 7 am to 1 pm in the summer —also complicate matters.

There is no great pleasure in hanging around Abu Dhabi, a town with few real leisure facilities, during the afternoon when business has been finished, in the hope of catching a seat on an evening aircraft. The fairly short distances between the main towns in the UAE and the high standard of roads means that many people choose to make their journeys by road. It seems reasonable to suppose that there might be a market for a "flying taxi" service between Abu Dhabi and Dubai and a complementary feeder service to the Ras al Khaymah and Sharjah airports. But now that these two towns are setting their sights on a major incursion into the international market there is probably little or no chance of such a service being set up. The authorities at Ras al Khaymah and Sharjah would balk at any suggestion that they should become the secondary ports that such a move would imply. So regional pride seems likely to continue to exert a strong influence on the development of the available services.

What is exercising the minds of some of those most heavily involved in aviation in the emirates is how the development of Sharjah and Ras al Khaymah will affect the status of the principal existing airports. It is acknowledged privately that even the existing competition in UAE aviation is of a fairly cut-throat variety and it is hardly to be expected that the appearance of even more airport capacity will lessen this. So in the next few years there will probably be some hard in-fighting.

One thing which immediately strikes the visitor about the air business in the emirates is the large British involvement. Many British citizens hold top positions in running the airports and air companies and there has been a strong British influence in the designing and building of airports in the UAE for quite some years. The first important British presence was in the early 1930s when Sharjah was used by Imperial Airways as a staging post for the Far East route. Shortly afterwards Imperial's flying boats started to use Dubai creek as a landing strip. During the war Sharjah was used by the RAF.

The British connexion continues. Dubai airport was designed by British consulting engineers, Page and Broughton, and built by Costain. The same consultants are now discussing plans with the state Government for the extension of Dubai. Meanwhile another British consultant, Sir William Halcrow & Partners, was involved in the design of the new airports at Ras al Khaymah and Sharjah.

But even the British, who have in one way or another benefited so much from aviation in the UAE, must be wondering when the business boom will stop. The new airports at Sharjah and Ras al Khaymah may well prove to be a turning point for aviation in the UAE, though no one is taking any bets on precisely what the outcome will be.

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Dubai international airport.

History ties states closer to West than to East

by Ann Fyfe

The UAE regards itself, as far as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is concerned, as a non-aligned member of the developing world and as such reacts in the international forums and agencies in the same way as other developing countries to the Third World's trip-words such as "imperialism", "South Africa" and the price of raw materials.

The surplus revenue from oil, its major difference from the majority of the producing side in what is sometimes called the north-south dialogue, is officially a difference of degree, not substance. History ties the UAE closer to the West than to the East but there is no ideological reason why eastern block diplomatic missions should not appear in Abu Dhabi over the next few years.

As far as the Third World is concerned the UAE's main interest is the Arab and Islamic countries and among its immediate neighbours, the Arabian Gulf States, two of the three outstanding problems have been solved in the past 18 months. The first, the border dispute with Saudi Arabia on the ownership of a group of villages in the Liwa, was brought to a negotiated settlement in the autumn of 1974, since when Saudi Arabia has finally recognized the UAE and the two countries have exchanged ambassadors.

Shaikh Zayed paid a state visit to Saudi Arabia last year and Prince Fahd returned it. There are not believed to be any remaining problems to speak of, both countries seeing eye to eye in general on oil production and prices and the not unrelated issue of the stability of the Gulf. This is often a key-note of Foreign Ministry speeches in the area and tends to mean avoiding presenting either of the great powers with any pretext for overt or covert intervention for the cause of oil wells. The second Gulf-level problem, the Dhofar insurgency in Oman and, more particularly, the Marxist-led Aden regime's total support for the rebels, is apparently over. The UAE received the South Yemen Foreign Minister *last year and is arranging an* easy-term loan to the People's Republic.

At the head of the Gulf, the third problem area, the UAE has traditionally had better relations than some of its neighbours with the Ba'athist Government of Iraq but has had its share of the pinpricks in relations between the Arabian shore of the Gulf and Iran. Nothing could have been more welcome to the small states between the two giants than the Algiers embrace between Sadam Hussain and the Shah; the general mood of détente in the Gulf endures.

Iranian ambassadors to the Arabian shore states are now back at their posts after having been withdrawn because the joint news agency set up recently by the information ministers of the Arab states called itself the Arabian Gulf News Agency, and sensitivity on the name issue on the part of the Iranians is said to be on the decline by mutual consent. In any event the coincidence of interests at the strategic level is too close to permit of serious ruptures. Shaikh Zayed paid a state visit to Teheran in 1975.

A last very small problem could have come to a head with the establishment of diplomatic relations at the beginning of 1976 between the UAE and Qatar, whose deposed former head of state lives in Dubai, but the *Qatar ambassador arrived in* Abu Dhabi and the consul took up his post in Dubai two months ago without incident.

On the wider Arab scene, Shaikh Zayed undertook an extensive tour of Arab countries of both right and leftist persuasion in 1974 to establish himself as a presence on the scene while belonging to neither camp. Since then the UAE's pronouncements on most inter-Arab disputes, most recently Lebanon and now the Maghreb, have been firmly on the side of mediation.

Aid, financial and military, to the "confrontation states" facing Israel was augmented again with the $150m given to President Sadat on his February visit and the UAE has had the six-month chairmanship of the Arab League during the period when the Arab states at the United Nations steered the motion that Zionism was a form of racialism through the General Assembly; its success caused great rejoicing.

The Islamic and Third World circles overlap considerably and it is here that the UAE, along with the other oil exporters, has been able, by virtue of the 30 per cent of its oil revenues it was prepared to spend on aid last year, to exercise most political influence.

The constant stream of African leaders who have been entertained in the UAE includes one of the most senior, President Senghor of Senegal, who came last summer.

In Abu Dhabi's 1975 budget, the foreign aid allocation, at 3,500m dirhams (£435m), was exactly the same as the internal development budget; this in a year when the disposal surplus sank to almost nothing because of reduced oil take-off in the early months. In the light of these figures, Saif bin Ghobash, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, is angered by criticism from western sources that Opec aid to the poorest countries has been slow in materializing and compares the total Opec surplus in any year with one item—defence—in the United States Budget. Mr Ghobash says the economic gap between the oil-exporters and the rest of the less developed countries is more apparent than real, in that the Opec countries, too, have non-industrialized economies totally dependent on one raw material, exported at present in its unprocessed state at prices decided until 1974 by the multinationals.

Official non-alignment apart, the UAE is undeniably much closer to the West than to the East in its foreign relations. No eastern-block embassies yet exist in Abu Dhabi, the capital, and none of the UAE 26 diplomatic missions abroad is to a communist country. History, cultural and educational links and trade have kept the former Trucial States in close touch with Britain but this may be changing.

Commercially, Britain is no longer the UAE's first supplier and both commercially and politically France is very welcome at the moment largely as a result of its stance in the producer-consumer conferences (but Djibouti's fate could put a rapid end to this situation). On the other hand, there is no great objection to the opening of eastern-block embassies, as has happened in neighbouring Oman, and some such development is to be expected in the next few years. Again, there is the certainty that the local population at least has little to fear from communism but much to fear, however, from any form of superpower rivalry in the area.

For a country less than five years old with fewer than a million inhabitants, the UAE has a great many suitors. Being both rich and underdeveloped gives the country a foot on both sides of the international economic divide but official foreign policy emphasizes membership of the underdeveloped camp in which the UAE is very active financially. Not a xenophobic country, it has the closest links with Europe and no great horror of the Warsaw Pact; membership of any military alliance is eschewed, however, in the interests of keeping international politics out of the Gulf. In the Gulf, the UAE was one of the main promoters of détente with Aden and Iraq and goes along with all the inter-Gulf mini summits; an inoffensive player on its local stage, in the rest of the 1970s at least the UAE is almost guaranteed the stability it craves.

Generous role in aid schemes extends to Asia

More than 30 per cent of the United Arab Emirates gross income in 1975 was spent on direct foreign aid, and the figure, surely the highest in the world, is not expected to change this year.

It includes loans extended by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED), which despite its name is no longer purely for Arab countries, and direct handouts by the Government, but does not include the UAE's equity shares in a number of commercial projects in Pakistan and elsewhere.

Apart from its own aid-dispensing organizations, the UAE belongs to the two funds set up by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in recent years for Africa and the developing Islamic countries, and to the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development in Kuwait. In view of the size of the capital investment in service industries and productive projects still required in the UAE, and despite the achievements of the past few years, officials at the fund tend to measure criticisms of the Opec countries' efforts against their failure to spend their target figure of 0.7 per cent of gross national income on aid.

ADFAED was created in 1971 with a capital of 500m dirhams (about £62m) specifically to offer long-term loans at low rates to other Arab countries, which it had done to the tune of 200m dirhams by the end of 1974 after its first year of substantive aid negotiations. In the second half of that year, however, the fund's capital was quadrupled to 2,000m dirhams and its articles rewritten to extend its sphere of activity to all Arab, African, Asian and Islamic developing countries and to make available technical as well as financial aid.

Only revenue-producing products or service industry projects are considered—that is, the fund will not finance simple budget deficits—and the maximum contribution the fund can make to any single project is 50 per cent. The remainder must be provided by the government concerned, another development fund, a commercial bank or company, or one of the international financing organizations. ADFAED was host to a conference of all the Arab funds in Abu Dhabi in January, at which their directors explored the possibilities of increased cofinancing drives.

Interest rates vary between 2 per cent for service industry development and about 5 per cent for commercial schemes. Repayment periods vary between 10 and 20 years. The loans are paid out in stages during the project against evidence of completion.

Theoretically, the fund has no interest in the political tenor of the government of the country to which it lends and is not supposed to be an instrument of foreign policy.

Loans have been made to monarchies like Morocco and Jordan and revolutionary command councils like Somalia and Mauritania—not that the terminology explains very much about the regimes. The fund is negotiating with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, which has not had much diplomatic success with the other Gulf states, principally because of its support for the Dhofar insurgency.

During its purely Arab phase, that is roughly until the end of 1974, the fund entered into loan commitments of 200m dirhams to finance a power station in Bahrain (which has just received another 160m dirhams); water supplies and agriculture in North Yemen; road building, a phosphates fertilizer plant and a dam in Jordan; property development in Morocco; railways, tourism and manufacturing industry in Tunisia; textiles in Sudan; an iron-rolling mill and a textile factory in Mauritania; irrigation and a dam in Somalia. It also lent 250m dirhams to the "confrontation states", Egypt and Syria, for various projects.

By the end of last year, however, the fund's loan commitments had doubled to 400m dirhams. Mr Nasser Al Newais, deputy director of the fund, went to West, Central and East Africa last summer and is completing negotiations with Tanzania, Burundi and Ruanda. In January he went to Malaysia, India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives and expects loan commitments to Asia this year to exceed 600m dirhams.

A staff of 60 administers the fund under the director, Dr Hassan Abbas Zaki, a former Egyptian Minister of the Economy. Qualified economists are scarce in Abu Dhabi, and one of the fund's important domestic roles is to train them. Several are abroad in Britain, Europe and some Arab countries training at banks and financial institutions, but meanwhile the strain on the existing staff is great and pressure from Third World delegations is not declining.

Apart from the Abu Dhabi fund, the UAE subscribes to the Arab Bank for African Development, the Arab Fund for Economic Social Development, and the recently established Islamic Development Bank based in Jiddah, to which the UAE is the largest single contributor.

Ad hoc groupings, with other oil exporters for specific projects have sprung up and single grants for disaster relief have been *made to Chad, Pakistan and* Bangladesh.

A separate Abu Dhabi government aid committee has so far extended a mixture of loans and cash grants over and above the fund's activities to Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Jordan and Pakistan.

It is difficult to calculate a total figure for aid, which would include all the head of state's personal gifts to itinerant delegations, shares in schemes financed with outside bodies, government shares in bilateral projects, emergency aid, military assistance to Egypt and Syria, and the other work of the fund. But the official *estimate of state aid in 1975* was 3,500m dirhams which is the same as the internal development allocation in Abu Dhabi's own budget from a total estimated revenue of 13,000m dirhams.

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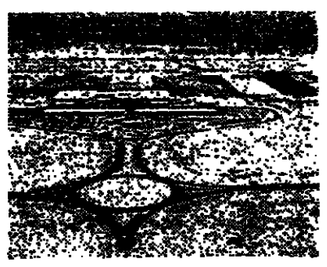

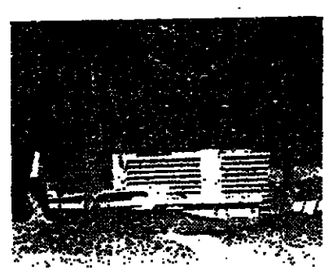

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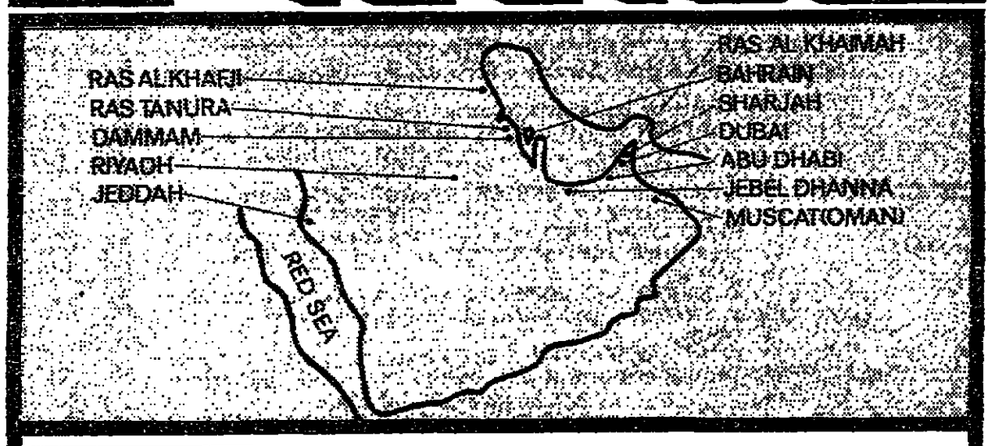

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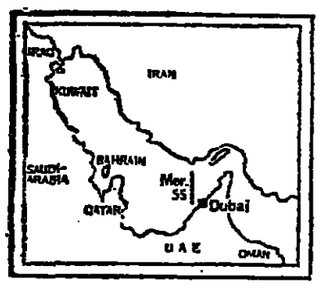

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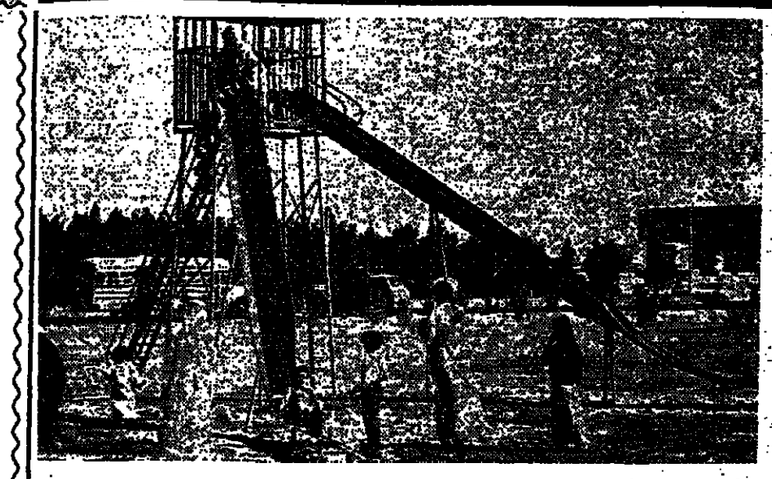

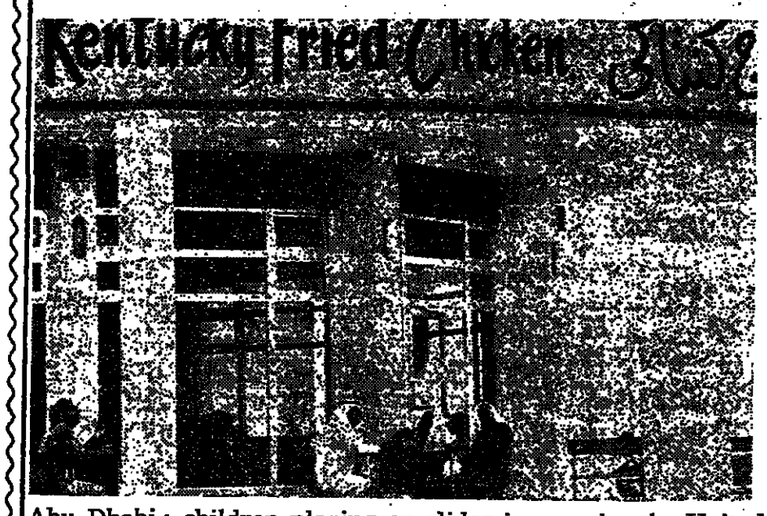

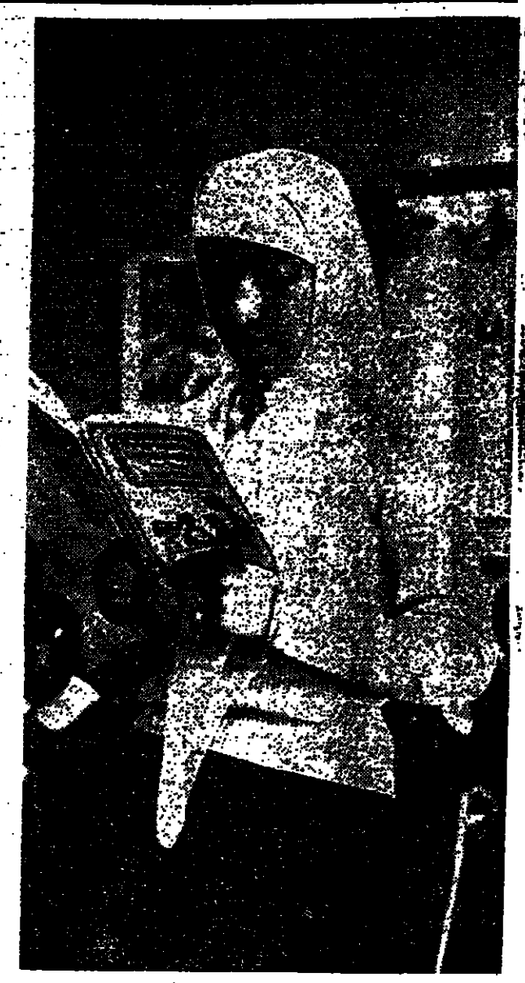

Abu Dhabi: children playing on slides in a park; the United States influence in eating (left) and a girl reading from an English textbook in school.

Through generous aid to less fortunate nations, the emirates have made many friends. Hasan Akhtar examines the UAE's economic collaboration with one of these, Pakistan

Significant support offered to Islamabad

Though United Arab Emirates-Pakistan economic relations are of fairly recent origin, they have developed over the past five years in a significant manner. The size of the investment so far made and proposed to be made by the United Arab Emirates in a number of projects in Pakistan indicates the interest, confidence and trust of the emirates in Pakistan.

One could possibly explain the rapid development of close economic relations between the UAE and Pakistan to their mutual geo-political necessity. Lacking in necessary social, economic and administrative services, the oil-rich emirates understandably looked for friends preferably on their periphery, who should, without having extra-territorial ambitions of their own, help to put their huge oil revenues to gainful purposes. The non-Arab Pakistani Muslims perhaps to a great extent could fulfil those requirements aptly.

On the other hand, Pakistan with a shattered economy after two wars with India within a short span of five years and its traditional western foreign aid becoming scarce and expensive, badly needed external economic support which the UAE seemed to offer to Islamabad without putting it under too much of economic or political strains.

It was in March, 1974, that the UAE and Pakistan decided to set up a joint ministerial commission with a view to organizing and regulating their economic and trade relations on a long-term basis. No doubt, before that, considerable groundwork had already been done at different official and non-official levels. Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan, the UAE President, and Mr Bhutto, the Pakistan Prime Minister, had had exchange of several official and non-official visits which went to lay firm ground for greater economic collaboration.

The fact that Shaikh Zayed openly regarded Pakistan as his second home and built a number of palaces for himself in Karachi and elsewhere in Pakistan, greatly helped Pakistan to secure a sizable share of the UAE investments abroad. Many Pakistani bankers and entrepreneurs have earned the confidence of the emirates' rulers. The presence of many thousands of Pakistani workers for a long time in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and other emirates also proved a positive factor in securing the UAE economic support.

The joint ministerial commission has been able to evolve a broad-based framework for economic collaboration between the UAE and Pakistan and to plan and expand mutual cooperation in various economic areas and in trade relations.

One of the early and timely major contributions made by the UAE to help Pakistan's sagging economy was a loan of $100m on easy terms to enable Islamabad to overcome its serious balance of payments difficulties during 1974-75. Most of this loan has already been used by Pakistan. Out of the several joint projects under execution with the equity participation of the UAE, there are three major ones estimated to cost about $312m.

A large fertilizer plant with an annual output of 223,000 tonnes is under construction at Multan in the province of the Punjab. Known as Pak-Arab Fertilizer Plant, the project has an authorized capital of $100m with a subscribed capital of $65m of which Abu Dhabi would contribute 48 per cent.

The machinery for plant is being imported from West Germany, Italy and Japan. The plant is being built by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the National Fertilizer Corporation of Pakistan, a public sector corporation. It is expected to be completed by about the middle of the next year.

Abu Dhabi is also contributing $122m to the construction of an oil refinery at Multan. The refinery is proposed to go into production by the end of 1978 having a refining capacity of two million tons a year. The joint ministerial commission at its meeting in July, 1975, had completed the financial arrangements of the proposed refinery.

Estimated to cost more than $180m, the refinery would be served by a two-way 500-mile long pipeline between Karachi and Multan. The contract for designing and construction of the ancillary pipeline has been awarded to an American firm.

Pakistan's contribution to the construction of the refinery is estimated to amount to $57m. The completion of the project will help Pakistan to refine its indigenous and imported oil for its own requirements as well as for export.

Another major joint venture agreed in principle is the establishment of a live-stock-cum-vegetable farm on 36,000 square acres of land close to Karachi in the province of Sind. The project was approved by the Abu Dhabi ruler and the Pakistan Prime Minister during their meeting in Shaikh Zayed's palace in Rahimyar Khan in Pakistan in February last year.

Costing an estimated $32m, it will be the first such farm in Pakistan. It is proposed to export vegetables and meat supplies from the projected farm to the emirates and other states in the region which suffer from perennial food shortages.

Apart from these major joint ventures, a number of projects of interest to Pakistan are being scrutinized by an economic commission of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development. The economic mission headed by Dr Hasan Abbas Zaki, chairman of the fund, visited Pakistan early last year and held detailed discussions with the Pakistani Government on a new portfolio of projects for which the UAE assistance would be welcomed.

Pakistan has indicated its desire to seek UAE financial assistance in the construction of several of its projects of economic importance including the Indus super highway, estimated to cost about $300m, and anti-waterlogging and salinity operations in the Punjab and Sind to reclaim vast land for agricultural purposes.

Pakistan has also sought the fund's participation in setting up a line of credit for the Pakistan Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation which lends money to Pakistani entrepreneurs to set up new industrial projects or expand the existing ones, particularly requiring assistance in foreign exchange.

The UAE assistance is also stated to have been discussed by the Pakistani Government in oil exploration in Pakistan by the state-owned Oil and Gas Development Corporation. The UAE had supplied a million tons of oil to Pakistan on favourable terms during 1975.

Increased cooperation in civil aviation and telecommunication is also being proposed and Pakistan International Airlines prepared a feasibility study for the UAE airlines which indicated a cost of $35m. The PIA has agreed to train the staff for the UAE airlines.

Trade between the UAE and Pakistan has been picking up although business between the two countries remains modest when compared to the UAE imports from other industrialized countries. Total exports from Pakistan to the UAE in 1970 was of the order of $5,524,000. In 1973 it rose to $15,656,000 and a year later it touched the record figure of $25,554,000.

Pakistan finds tough competition in its trade exports to the highly competitive market of the UAE. However, efforts are being made to expand and diversify trade relations. A Dubai trade delegation visiting Pakistan in February gave an assurance that, despite a slump in Pakistani exports, the UAE would import goods worth more than $20m.

Pakistan has traditionally exported rice and, to a less degree, cement and other building materials, but considerable attention is being paid to machinery produced in Pakistan. A beginning has already been made with Pakistan exporting a sulphuric acid plant and a steel rerolling mill to the UAE.

An important aspect of Pakistan-UAE economic collaboration lies in the employment of about 65,000 Pakistanis in the UAE in a variety of business and commercial ventures and in some key official positions. This has not only provided Pakistanis with better employment opportunities but has helped Pakistan to obtain much needed foreign exchange through remittances made by its countrymen back home. It is estimated that they remitted $47m last year.

Apart from the economic collaboration, the UAE has been extending assistance to Pakistan by way of grants in purely humanitarian projects. The Shaikh of Abu Dhabi met the entire cost of a modern hospital in the interior of Sind this year and offered to bear the cost of another such hospital in Lahore. Two years ago he gave $26m towards the expense of flood relief work in the Punjab. Pakistan has reciprocated these gestures by offering educational and technical training facilities to UAE students in Pakistani institutions.

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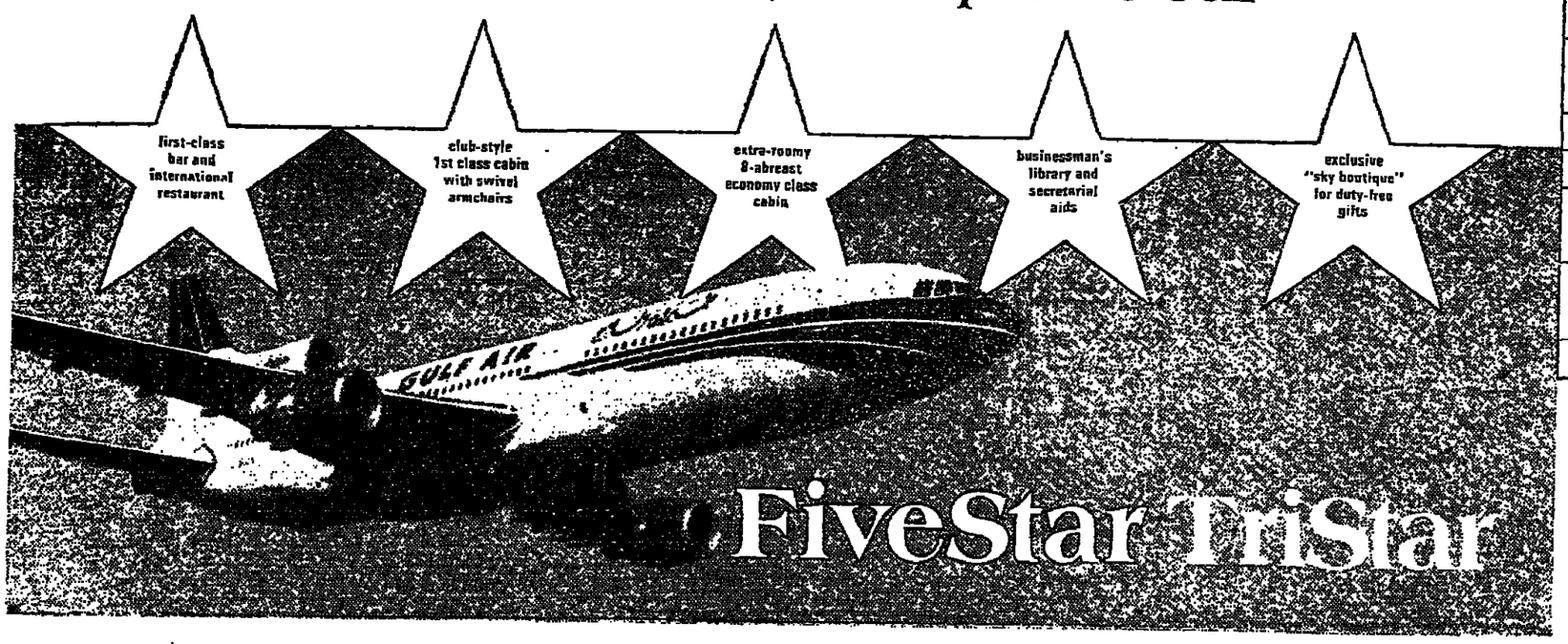

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هكذا من الاصل

Banking and insurance lure the merchants

by Ann Fyfe

The Currency Board moratorium on the licensing of new foreign banks to open in the United Arab Emirates, designed to stimulate local banking, elicited a greater than expected response from local owners of capital. There are now 17 local banks out of a total of 45. Lebanon's troubles have brought some pressure for the lifting of the moratorium, which may happen soon, but the move by local citizens into banking was undoubtedly one of the two major trends in banking in 1975; the other was the measures taken, in concert with the other Gulf monetary authorities, towards setting up the Gulf monetary union.

At the end of 1975, some 45 banks were licensed to open, including 28 foreign banks. They were distributed between five British, four Iranian, two Egyptian, two Pakistani, two Canadian, two American, two Swiss, two French and one each from The Netherlands, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, India, Luxembourg and Bangladesh, plus 17 locally-incorporated banks, six based in Dubai, five in Abu Dhabi, four in Sharjah and one each in Ras al-Khaymah and Ajman.

The citizens who have entered banking have been for the most part established merchants, with some shaikhs. As a complement to commerce and property interests, banking has been more attractive than, say, manufacturing industry probably because technical and marketing factors are not involved; in insurance, too, the same phenomenon has been recorded.

Assets grew from 9,800m dirhams in January 1975 to 10,500m dirhams at the end of September 1975, the last date for which figures are available, but these figures in fact show a levelling off of the rate of growth; between October 1974 and March 1975 total assets had grown by 56 per cent compared with 26 per cent between April and September, 1975. Deposits, interest rates on which are regulated by the Currency Board, showed an upward trend on the whole and a switch from demand into time deposits was observed. Currency Board analyses indicate that much of the increase in time deposits consisted of foreign currency holdings and that about half of all time deposits were placed for short periods, for three months and less. Deposits for more than 12 months are still rare but increasing significantly.

Credit extended by the banks grew considerably from 3,000m dirhams in September, 1974 to 5,700m dirhams a year later, forming 43 per cent of total assets of deposit banks. No reserve ratio requirements are laid down, nor are lending rates under any form of regulation as yet, except by market factors. Over the UAE as a whole, trading activities again absorbed the largest proportion of credit extended, with 52 per cent, but this was less than the 60 per cent absorbed by trade in December 1974—a continuing downward trend.

Construction's share, conversely, grew from 18 per cent to 22 per cent over the same period. Manufacturing and agriculture still account for the smallest proportion. The breakdown differs considerably between Abu Dhabi and Dubai however, showing that Dubai continues to lend a far greater percentage of total credit, 61 per cent, to trade, than to construction, which took 15 per cent, while in Abu Dhabi trade and construction both now absorb 36 per cent.

In both Dubai and Abu Dhabi, the percentage of credit absorbed by trade is declining substantially, from 45 per cent to 36 per cent between December, 1974, and September, 1975 in the case of Abu Dhabi and from 66 per cent to 61 per cent in Dubai. In both cases, it was construction which benefited from the swing, accounting for 36 per cent of all credit in Abu Dhabi, as already mentioned, against 34 per cent in December, 1974 and taking 15 per cent in Dubai against 12 per cent on the same dates. Interest rates on lending are still in the 9 to 12 per cent range, with some volume above 12 per cent but very little below 8 per cent.

It is estimated that the volume of inter-bank transactions has more or less quadrupled since last year's report, as a result not only of a natural growth in the sector but also the introduction of the central money broking facility last year, which has of itself generated activity. A large increase has been recorded, too, in the flow of transactions on the inter-Gulf level.

As for the Currency Board, the statutes of its metamorphosis into a Central Bank have now been drawn up and are believed to include powers to impose minimum liquidity ratios and other credit regulations. Early in March, the board opened a third office in Sharjah, reflecting the third largest emirate's emergence as a banking centre.

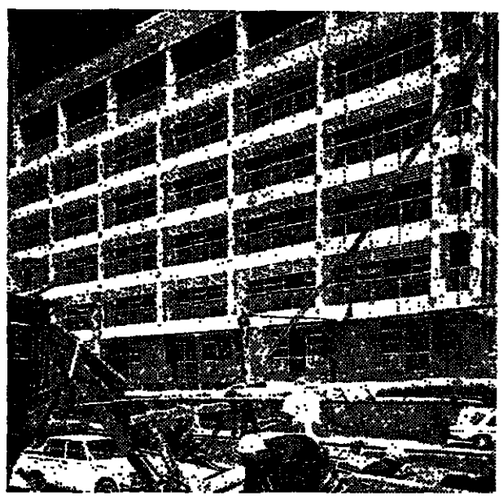
In conjunction with the Bahrain Monetary Agency, the UAE recently introduced a note facility for travellers by which either 50 Bahrain dinars or 500 UAE dirhams can be spent in the other country without being exchanged. More fundamentally, significant progress has been made towards the creation of the Gulf monetary union (GMU) between Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the UAE. The technical committee has now reported to the four monetary authorities and it is predicted that the GMU will be in existence in a year to 18 months. Perhaps not as soon as that but well within this decade, the union will operate one fiscal policy with one currency (commonly referred to as the Gulf dinar, although that is not necessarily its final designation) and one lending rate structure to even out the flow of capital between the four states.

Finally, insurance has also experienced an upsurge of interest on the part of local citizens. Some 33 companies are now operating, perhaps a rather high number a head of population by European standards, but they are not believed to be short of business. The market is fairly new and complex but highly idiosyncratic, in that, for example, it is not the norm by any means for the owner of a multistorey apartment block to insure it or himself against any kind of misfortune. By no means all of the 33 companies feel able to offer life assurance policies, as there is a lack of medical and mortality statistics. No form of motor insurance is compulsory throughout the UAE, although regulations exist in one or two emirates, and as yet only a small sector of the community insures its homes and valuables as a matter of course. Most of the business is in fact in contractors' all-risks policies against misfortune to the work in hand plus workers' compensation which is required by law.

As far as reinsurance is concerned, many of the insurance offices in the UAE operate as branches of companies established in other Arab countries, in which case business is simply remitted to head office—and naturally the total absence of any foreign exchange controls in the UAE is an important consideration here. Some European companies operate through local agents who again refer back to head offices abroad, but the locally-incorporated insurance companies generally arrange their reinsurance treaties in London or the European centres.

The American system is not so familiar. About 2.5 per cent of the risk is a fair estimate of what these local companies will retain, initially at least, ceding the remaining 97.5 per cent and making a comfortable living on commission income. There is no regulation by law of reserve ratios, however. Premiums in general are low by world standards, there being no civil commotion, organized crime or geographical disadvantages such as earthquakes, floods or hurricanes. Motor premiums are the exception, standards of both driving and car maintenance being distinctly low.

Generally, then, the natural growth of the banking and insurance sectors continues but with much greater participation by the local capitalists, as was the intention behind the moratorium on new foreign banks. When the local/foreign balance has been properly redressed (which will not take long at the present rate) or a decision has been reached on the implications of Beirut's demise as a banking centre, a number of changes in Currency Board policy can be expected. This, and the Gulf monetary union, are the points to watch in the coming months.



Of the emirates' 45 banks, 17 are locally owned.

Financial skill on doorstep

by Peter Hobday

Since Abu Dhabi and Dubai are the two members of the United Arab Emirates with appreciable oil revenues, it is really the policies of their respective rulers Shaikh Zayed and Shaikh Rashid, that determine how money is invested outside the country.

The main thrust of overseas investment stems from Abu Dhabi, the state with the largest per capita income in the world. Apart from the usual channels of personal investment in property abroad, Dubai is concerned mainly with building up its role as a banking and commercial centre within the Gulf.

Dubai is possibly the most overbanked state in the world. Indeed, the emirates as a whole have about one bank branch per 2,000 people. There are nearly 100 financial institutions in Dubai, but Abu Dhabi has not been slow to develop a similar business and has more than 70. There are another 100 in Sharjah, Ras al Khaymah, Ajman and Umm al Qaywain.

The result is financial skill on the doorstep which gives the emirates commercial and financial advice probably second to none in the placing and handling of their surplus funds in investments overseas. It is against this background, therefore, that one has to interpret the strategies of the two main oil revenue earners.

There is also a great deal of secrecy about the emirates' foreign portfolio. Estimates put the size of the portfolio at about $2,000m. Until this year the funds were handled by the Abu Dhabi Investment Board set up in 1967. The chairman was Sir John Hogg of Williams & Glyn's, and included men from Morgan Guaranty, Bankers Trust and the Banque Indochine. Later Robert Fleming & Company was added to the list of board members.

Special appeal of property

The funds were spread, in a fairly conservative fashion in blue chip equities, fixed interest stocks and convertibles. But, as with all the Arab states, property held a special appeal and a huge amount of money was strategically invested with the most notable and probably the largest single investment being the 44 per cent stake in the Commercial Union building in London. It was worth, at the end of 1974 when it was purchased, about £36m. Property values have fallen since then and the emirates' valuation of that stake is not published.

This year the London-based board was disbanded and was replaced with the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority with Shaik Zayed's son, the Prime Minister, in charge. Its members also include the Foreign Minister. The main reason was, as with Kuwait's analogous body in London, the desire to "Arabize". Although the new authority would obviously retain informal links with former members, day-to-day control will be exercised locally.

For the moment the authority is working out its strategy and no news has been released how far it will change the approach of its predecessors. It is probable that little will really change in that Shaikh Zayed and his fellow rulers are as conscious as all the oil shaikhs that oil is a wasting asset and the time will surely come when they must live by other means.

One of the problems is that the consumption of oil has fallen after the fourfold rise in the price of energy since December, 1974. This has curtailed revenues and therefore surplus funds to be invested abroad. Again, like other leaders in the Middle East, the emirate rulers are determined to push ahead with domestic development first, Arab or Islamic aid next, then aid to the Third World (in the UAE's case Pakistan is a particular beneficiary). It is only after all this that investment in longer-term assets comes.

Drop in oil consumption

It has been widely reported, though not confirmed, that the investment agencies had comparatively little to invest in the past year. In that time the most significant effect of Abu Dhabi's liquidity problems after the drop in oil consumption has meant that investment in the European and American financial markets dropped from about $1,000m in 1974, to $400m in 1975. This year, with imported inflation distorting the planned expenditure on domestic development, the surplus after meeting all commitments will be of the order of $250m.

But if the public purse is feeling the pinch because of the fall in oil revenues and the rise in the price of development plans which are still pushing ahead apace, private investment overseas is still very much in evidence. For example Mohamed Al Fayed, a director of Lonrho and Richard Costain, took up his option on 2,200,000 Lonrho shares last June at the cost of £2.6m.

But the individual investor still prefers property and this is where Britain benefits to a great extent. The UAE ambassador bought a house in Rutland Gate for £160,000, and many of his compatriots have invested in property in Mount Street or Carlos Place. There are UAE interests in a new Knightsbridge hotel.

Mr Andrew Langton of Aylesfords, the estate agents, went to the Dubai Fair and says that in May, when the weather in the Gulf gets rather hot, the property buying season will start in earnest. With the devastation of so much of Beirut, and that would include quite a few summer homes for men from the UAE, Britain is becoming an increasingly attractive place in which to put one's money and where property of good quality (and now thanks to the recent sharp devaluation of the pound even cheaper) is to be had.

Solicitors such as Fox and Gibbons have a growing business in not only conveyancing but also providing advice to visiting Abu Dhabians and Dubaians. It is being rumoured that soon a seven figure deal will be pulled off, but it might well be the not unwarranted euphoria of the property dealers that with the business fairly quiet, the Arab buyer is being courted. It is said that about £150m worth of property has been bought by Arabs from the emirates and other Gulf states, but it is impossible to pin down who is buying what.

Apart from property as a summer home or an occasional pied-à-terre in one of the favourite capital cities for the Arab visitor, there are investments being made with a view to income. A health hydro, hotels as well as blocks of flats have all been on shopping lists of the new wealthy merchant class. Apart from London, Paris, Switzerland and to a less extent New York property has also proved an attraction. But given the links that have existed between Britain and the UAE, London probably has attracted most of the funds.

One final area for investment falls betwen domestic development and overseas investment. For example plans for the development of a cargo fleet (in the words of one Abu Dhabian "we would like to go back to our original business in the Gulf as seafarers") works in two ways. A growing merchant marine earns foreign revenue as well as providing work at home. Similarly Shaikh Rashid's determination to enlarge and modernize the port of Dubai has proved to be of extreme benefit given the congestion in the Gulf.

Invisible earnings a solution

The consultants originally suggested four berths, but the shaikh insisted on 15, a courageous decision which has long since been vindicated. Again, as Dubai emerges more and more as a significant commercial and financial centre, the revenues in foreign earnings, as the City of London knows full well, can be significant. Invisible earnings of this sort in the long run will be a useful solution when the high oil revenues of today are a thing of the past.

Wherever one looks at the ways in which the United Arab Emirates invest—especially abroad either at government level or through individuals—time and again it is obvious that the advice that is available is good and plentiful. Like Kuwait, the emirates seem set to break away from the past and into the future without wasting the opportunities of what historically will be seen as a short-lived oil boom.

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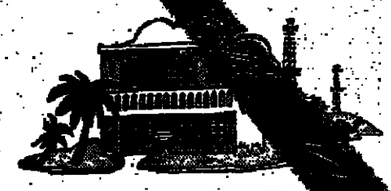

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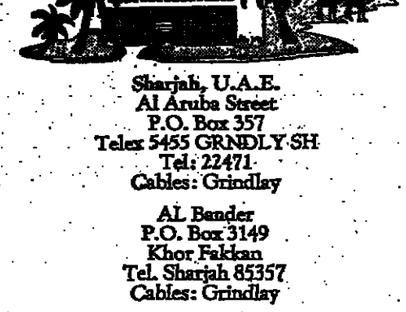

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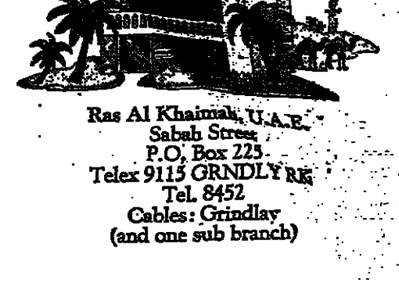

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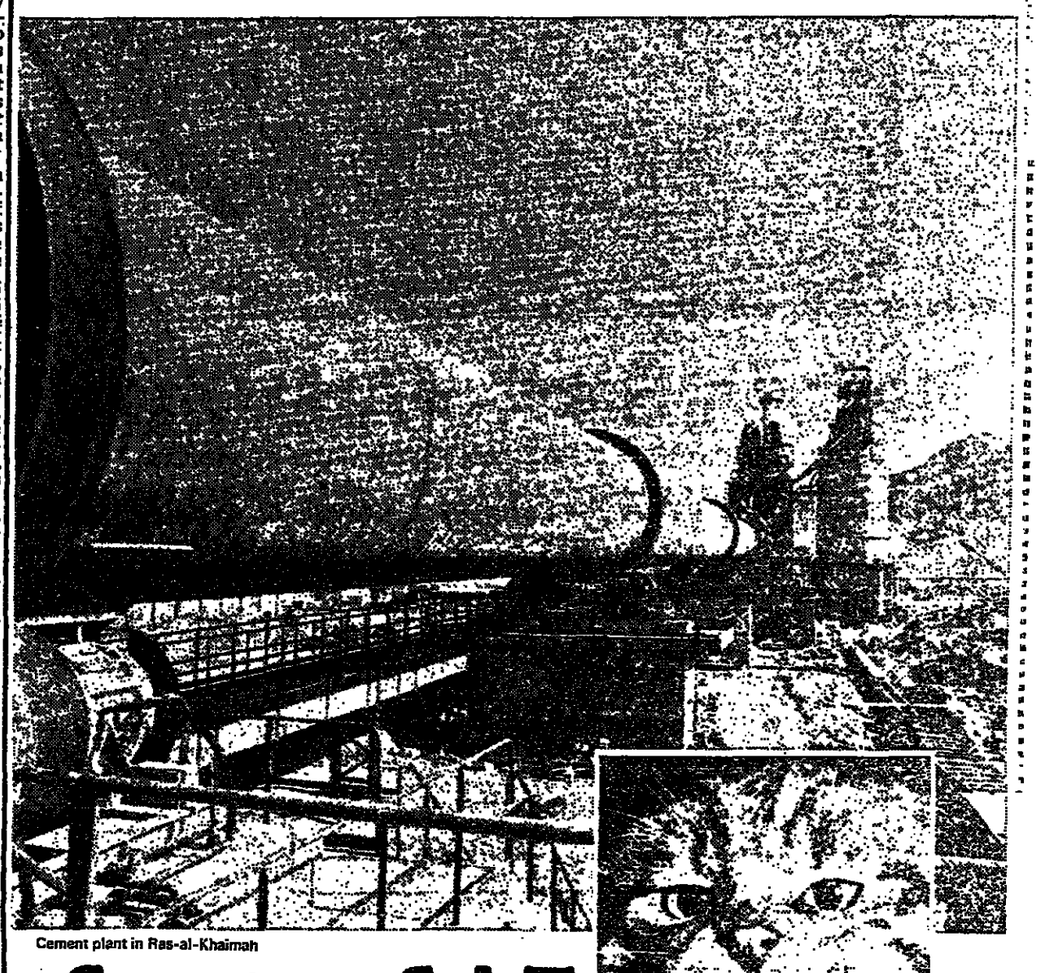

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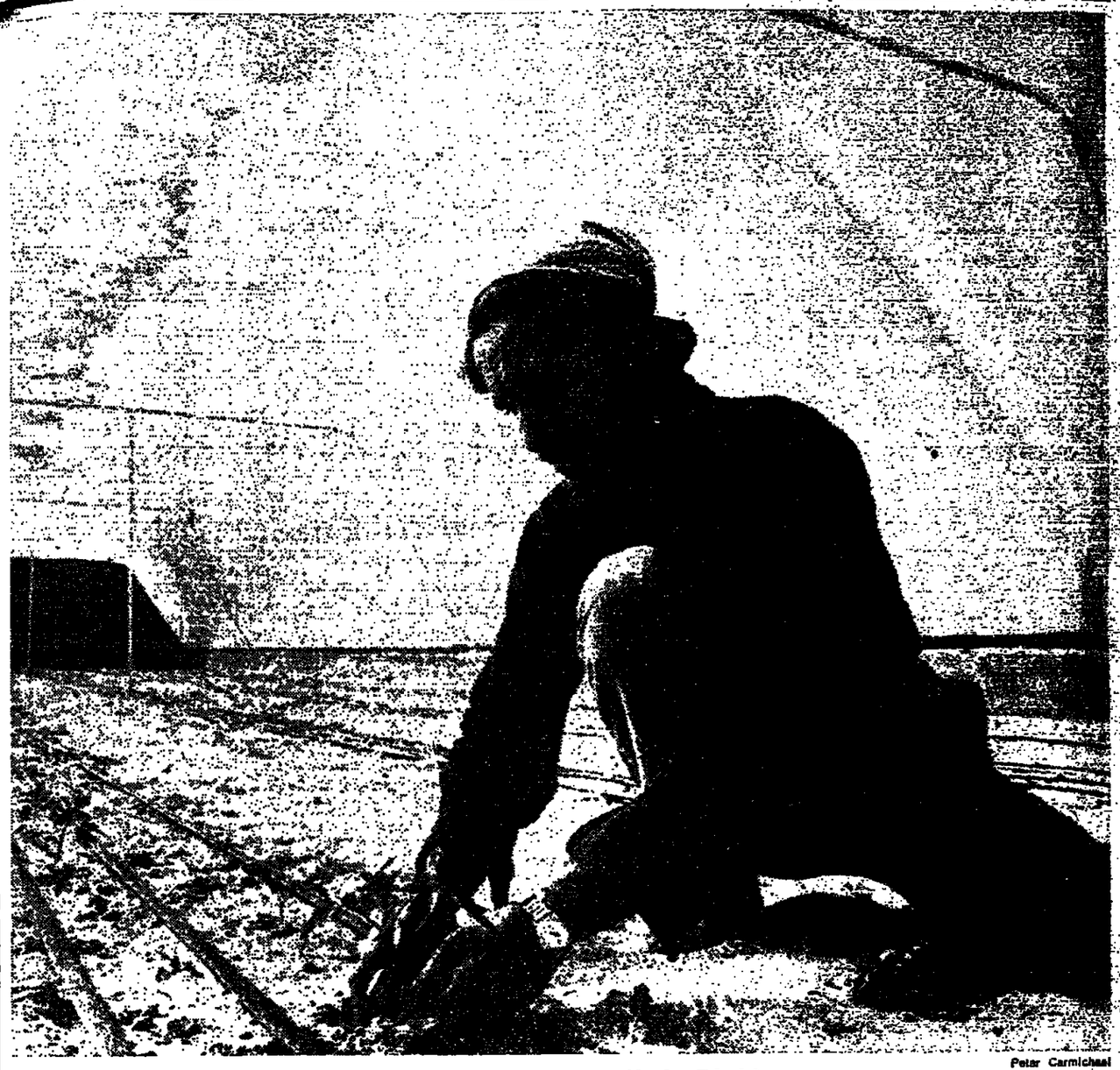

Peter Carmichael

Controlled environment horticulture on Sadiyat, an island off Abu Dhabi.

Pale hopes for a green revolution

by Malcolm Brown

The idea of a green revolution in the UAE is appealing, but unrealistic. Enormous ingenuity and large amounts of money have been put into remarkable experimental projects such as the Abu Dhabi Arid Lands Research Centre on Sadiyat island which produces more than a ton of vegerables a day in an artificially-controlled environment.

But schemes like these can be expected only to ameliorate the difficulties of the region, not lead to a transformation. The constraints on agriculture are severe: the overwhelming majority of the emirates' 77,700 sq km is infertile and the climate distinctly inhospitable, summer temperatures reaching 45°C with minimal rainfall, usually somewhere between 70mm and 120mm a year.

But if the odds against cultivation are stacked high the reasons for wanting to improve both agriculture and fishing are strong. The cost of imported food is a major component in the high rate of inflation, some items jumping as much as 300 per cent last year and, with the enormously rapid developments of the towns on the back of the oil boom, the emirates are facing a serious problem of urban drift.

The highest rainfall

The main limiting factor on agriculture in the UAE is water; it is the location and quality of water which determine the agricultural profile of the emirates. The most favoured region is Ras al Khaymah, which lies to the north. Ras al Khaymah receives underground water supplies from the Oman mountains near by and has the highest rainfall, allowing it to support good arable land—a rarity in the emirates. The area is also the traditional fruit and vegetable grower of the emirates, supplying everything from dates to cucumbers, and has sufficient good grazing to feed cattle, camels, goats and sheep.

There are three other agricultural areas in the emirates: the Buraimi Oasis straddling the borders of Abu Dhabi and the Sultanate of Oman, the Liwa Oasis, 125 miles south east of Buraimi, and parts of the discontinuous Batinah coastal plains on the Gulf of Oman.

As the populations of the towns multiply and tastes become more advanced, there is a ready and growing market for all that the agricultural regions can produce. But the problems of fulfilling that demand are legion. Water is in short supply and what there is is wasted due to poor irrigation methods; livestock diseases such as pleuropneumonia and mange are widespread; and diseases and insects often create havoc on fruit and vegetable crops.

The Government is spending large amounts of money trying to conquer these disadvantages and set the emirates on the road to agricultural self-sufficiency, which must be a long-term and possibly unattainable goal. The farmer is aided by price subsidies and can call on help in well-digging, the use of fertilizers and seeds and pest control. He can also obtain generous government loans.

The aim is to wean the farming community away from inefficient traditional methods and persuade it to adopt modern techniques specially adapted to the rigorous climatic and soil conditions in the emirates. The Digdagga Agricultural Trials Station in the emirate of Ras al Khaymah is now in its twenty-first year and is central to the whole research and education effort of the emirates.

Set up on a modest scale by an expatriate Englishman, the project has grown until it now has nearly 400 acres of land under experimental cultivation. It is also the centre of agricultural education, accepting students from the whole Arab world, and has recently completed an experimental study involving the raising of a herd of imported Friesian cows. The results of this experiment when evaluated could have widespread ramifications throughout the Gulf.

The emirate of Abu Dhabi has its own experimental farm at al Ain in the Buraimi Oasis and a new experimental farm has recently been started at Rawaya in the emirate of Dubai with the intention of encouraging the local Beduin to take up settled farming.

Although generally the experimental projects have met with substantial success in encouraging diversification and improved husbandry, there have been failures, a salutary reminder perhaps that the problems of the emirates are deep-seated and complex and cannot be solved merely by the application of money, a resource which is in abundant supply.

The Meleiha scheme got off to a number of false starts. Originally planned to supply vegetables for a special market which did not materialize it was then adapted to act as a settlement project for Beduin, each of whom was to have his own plot. But the project has been less than successful and a reexamination is to be made.

The most notable of the experiments, and with justification, is the now well-known Arid Lands Research Centre. Financed by the Abu Dhabi Government and run by a team from the University of Arizona, the project is proving that it is possible, at a cost, to produce vegetables in the most unfavourable climatic and soil conditions.

Enriched with nutrients

Sadiyat in effect is a massive collection of greenhouses, roofed over with plastic. Inside the plastic tent the environment is artificially controlled and desalinated water, enriched with nutrients, is fed to the vegetables by sprinklers and a system of pipes which drip feeds each individual plant at soil level.

But technologically based experiments like Sadiyat, however spectacular, by themselves will not solve the UAE's agricultural problems. These must be tackled at a more prosaic level. The first essential is a thorough survey of the country's water and soil resources followed by an examination of how the best use can be made of them by the adoption of advanced methods of irrigation and fertilization.

Moves are already under way to carry out such surveys. Beyond that, if the fullest use is to be made of indigenous produce, the towns must build up refrigeration and food processing plants.

The development of the fishing industry in the emirates is an altogether different problem, a question of structure rather than resources. The UAE borders two extremely productive fishing regions: the Gulf, lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, and the Gulf of Oman. The Gulf contains many varieties of fish from rock-cod to tuna while an even greater abundance of fish is found in the Gulf of Oman, including mackerel, jack, merlin and sardine.

But to exploit these resources properly the emirates need a modern fishing fleet, good harbours and land-based facilities. In the past few years a number of small wharves have been constructed in Ras al Khaymah, Meireed, Khor Khwair, Abu Dhabi, Dibba and Khor Fakkan and four have been built in Dubai. But many of them still lack basic facilities like fuel and water supplies.

Market facilities are also scarce. Eight rudimentary fish markets have been built by the Government recently but they tend to serve restricted village communities and in many fishing villages the fishermen still have to resort to the traditional methods of drying their catch on the beach.

Modernization of the fishing fleet is a priority. The Development Bank of the United Arab Emirates makes loans for the purchase of large modern vessels and equipment. On a more modest level the fishermen are able to get financial support for new engines. In the period 1971-74 nearly 650 engines were bought under this scheme, and a further 500 were made available to fishermen last year. To back up this facility free maintenance workshops have been set up in some areas.

The encouragement which has been given to the fishing industry has led to a major increase in catches. In 1963 the estimated catch was 10,000 tons; by 1974 this had increased more than sixfold and it seems likely that these figures will continue to be improved upon for some years yet.

In both agriculture and fishing, although the will is there to push through improvements, there is a basic weakness: the administrative structure, from the minister down, is, say its critics, ill-defined and inefficient. It is felt that until a proper administration is built, progress in agriculture and fishing is bound to be less than satisfactory. All too often one hears of projects which have ground to a halt because nobody wished to take responsibility for them in the absence of clear directives from above.

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Capturing a changing world on canvas

Unlike other parts of the Middle East, such as Egypt, Palestine and Turkey where countless artists from the nineteenth century to the present day have recorded the monuments, scenery and people, few painters have left records of the Gulf area. So today's historians are largely dependent on the written accounts of travellers for their knowledge of the way of life and the appearance of the shaikhdoms before the invention of the camera.

Happily, this situation is being remedied. Not only are intensive camera studies being made of the architecture, natural history and scenery of the seven shaikhdoms forming the United Arab Emirates, but artists are busily at work capturing this fast-changing world.

The newly founded Mathaf Gallery, in Motcomb Street, London, specializes in the work of artists of the Middle East. During the World of Islam Festival, it will be mounting a series of short exhibitions of paintings from this area.

A selection of paintings from the emirates by two women artists based in Abu Dhabi will be exhibited in the gallery from April 19 to 24. Details from examples of their work are seen here. One of the artists, Joyce Butter, is married to Shaikh Zaid's finance director. She studied at the Leeds School of Art, qualified as an art teacher and won a scholarship to the Royal Academy. Her work has been widely exhibited both in Britain and in the emirates, and she has received many commissions from both the Government of Abu Dhabi and Shaikh Zaid personally.

The other artist, Ria Aldrowska, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts since 1943, has regularly exhibited at the Royal Academy as well as in the Gulf. Her work is shown at left and Mrs Butter's at right.

Emphasis on development of adult education

by Ann Fyfe

A boy learning mathematics in an Abu Dhabi school.

The educational system of the United Arab Emirates has burgeoned since the federation was established in 1971 but, as a consequence of its rapid growth, faces difficulties of administration, staffing and policy direction. In the three years to 1974 the number of schools of all types more than doubled to 147, reflecting the spread of formal, non-Koranic education into the remoter parts of the country.

Historically, formal education in the seven states which united to form the federation had received little emphasis, partly because of scarce resources and partly because of the sparse and unevenly distributed population pattern. The first developments were concentrated in the coastal towns and at the time of federation two main and separate systems existed: the Abu Dhabi State Ministry of Education, founded on increasing revenue from oil, and the system of education donated and administered by the Kuwaiti State Office for the six northern emirates.

Parallel to these developing systems went the establishment of the Sharjah State Department of Education and the establishment (through the Trucial States Development Council) of a trade school teaching to City and Guilds craft level and providing a springboard for further technical education.

It can be seen, however, that all these developments are fairly recent and that the system was concentrated at primary level; in 1974 there were still only 1,550 pupils at secondary level out of a total of 40,500 at school, and the traditional pattern in the previous decade was for pupils to follow secondary level courses abroad (in Qatar or Kuwait, or farther afield).

There is at present no indigenous system of further education, although a pattern of teacher training (particularly for women) is established similar to the former elementary school system in Britain and other countries, and in recent years particular emphasis has been laid on the development of adult education (the eradication of illiteracy) classes, there now being more than 100 such centres.

After federation the various systems were amalgamated and the education system set up by the Kuwaiti State Office and the administration developed in Sharjah and Abu Dhabi became the basis of the federal system. Over the intervening period the ministry has continued to use the Kuwaiti syllabus working to the Kuwaiti Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC), which was instituted in 1975, as the federation entered a new period of maturity and greater numbers were employed on the secondary staffs. The system aims at an Arab and Islamic education and the provision of a basic education for both boys and girls.

Two significant steps mark the growing maturity of the educational system; a committee has been appointed to consider and advise on syllabus development, and the decision has been taken to set up a system of higher education. The ministry's budget for this year is £75m, reflecting not only the increasing recurrent costs of the expanding education services but also the early stages of the development costs of these two initiatives. While the syllabus committee is already engaged in determining the social and educational framework of the new syllabuses, planning for the new university is at an early stage and it is expected that the institution will begin as a faculty of education in converted premises.

The pyramid structure of the emirates' educational system is planted in the broad base of the primary schools, which in 1974 accounted for some 34,000 of the 40,500 pupils in the system. A 12-year system similar to that provided in several neighbouring Arab countries is in force, consisting of six years' primary education followed by three years' intermediate and three years' secondary, leading to the SSLC.

Increasingly in the larger towns provision is being made for kindergarten education. The existing system of technical education encompasses schools in Dubai (with a commercial subjects institute), Sharjah and Ras al Khaymah, a vocational training centre in Abu Dhabi and a small agricultural college in Digdagga.

Stipends give opportunity

For the present, students completing the SSLC benefit from the generous stipends awarded for study abroad, the most popular subjects being medicine, engineering and business and commercial studies, most bursaries being awarded for study in Egypt, Kuwait and Lebanon with increasing numbers of students following courses in the United States rather than the existing favourite, Britain. Stipends (of a value increasing with the grade) are also paid to school pupils and thus there is a clear opportunity for pupils from all backgrounds to progress from primary to higher education according to their abilities.

Because of the large and varied expatriate communities in the emirates, there is a long-established and expanding system of community schools, especially at primary level. The schools are subject to standards set by the Ministry of Education but the ministry encourages this type of education "in the belief that it is necessary to accommodate expatriate students who cannot be housed in government schools". Best provided with such schools is the Dubai-Sharjah conurbation where primary schools exist or are planned for children speaking Arabic, Persian, Urdu, English, French and German, but similar schools exist in Abu Dhabi and are likely to grow up in other towns as the pace of development quickens.

The schools tend to follow syllabuses leading to secondary school entrance within the students' own national systems and, particularly for British children, secondary school studies will be at a boarding school. All the schools are well subscribed and expatriates seeking places in them need to contact the school's board well in advance.

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The Bithnah fort in Al Fujayrah. Forts such as these are familiar to travellers in this harsh terrain. Right: the mysterious mound which scholars have recently discovered at Ras al Kh may be the remains of a shore fort captured from the Portuguese in 1633.

Seeking an ancient nation beneath the sun-baked soil of the new

by Peter Hudson

The modern road from Abu Dhabi goes north along the coast of the United Arab Emirates over sterile pale sand for mile after mile. The monotony of its rolling hills is broken only by the greater monotony of vast reaches of brown *sabkha*: flat and salt-crusted marsh, treacherous and without life, which makes the neighbouring sands appear fertile by comparison.

North of Dubai, the vegetation in the sands begins to increase and almost as imperceptibly the colour of the sands deepens as the Hajar mountains, with their rich silts, reach closer to the coast. North of Umm al Qaywayn, the sands darken towards a red-gold hue and in winter, after the rains, are carpeted with flowers and fine grass shoots, a green blush which again turns to grey in summer.

At Ras al Khaymah, the great strip of fertile plain which lies like a black carpet at the feet of the heat-shattered Hajar mountains stands thick with gardens which extend southwards towards Al Khatt. South of Al Khatt, the gravel plain, streaked by wadis, travels on. Passing Masafi and Mileiha, it becomes the Madam plain, scattered here and there with villages and gardens, and reaches the great oases of Al Ain and Buraimi.

To those arriving from Europe and America, experiencing its climate for the first time, this country is harsh and often frightening, and it may seem that only a brutal and uncompromising existence could have been eked out here ever since man first came.

Contact with the Arabs soon dispels that impression, however. The genius for civilization is there, the gentle, friendly gardeners tending their precarious plots in the mountains and the deserts and their hospitable *bedu* neighbours having previously lacked only the material requirements of modern culture. Now that oil pays for these requirements, they are supplied, often at breathtaking speed, and the country flourishes—just as it may have done in prehistoric times.

New roads which make travel, even in this forbidding climate, more comfortable, are now enabling Government, professionals and amateurs to enlarge on the preliminary archaeological investigation of the area which began only recently and under difficult conditions.

Among the early visitors to the Trucial States, as the United Arab Emirates were then called, Beatrice de Cardi made a brief but useful survey which was published in 1971. Geoffrey Bibby, whose Danish archaeological expeditions had discovered the third millenium civilization of Dilmun on Bahrain island, organized the first excavations at Umm an Nar island near Abu Dhabi and at Hili near Al Ain which indicated the possibility that the United Arab Emirates might be the location of the missing land of Magan, the source of Mesopotamia's copper in the bronze age.

Bibby's activities are being continued and enlarged by the archaeological department of the Ministry of Information. Their digs at Dubai, Umm al Qaywayn and Mileiha, and some recent surface finds at Falaj al Mu'alla, Sharjah, Ajman, Jebel Ali and Al Faqr indicate a widespread cultural identity, but much exploration is needed to find the capital of Magan, its mines and its trade routes with Dilmun, Mesopotamia and the Indus valley.

In any major archaeological undertaking there the changed coastline of the emirates must be brought into consideration. In Qatar, the Danish archaeological survey found that the coast had risen by some 80ft in 40,000 years; in the United Arab Emirates, bronze age sites at Dubai, Sharjah, Hamriya and Umm al Qaywayn which were formerly on the coast, are now well inland, separated from the sea by wide *sabkha* flats.

In former times, the coast of the United Arab Emirates was deeply notched by creeks such as those at Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Khan, Sharjah and Umm al Qaywayn, which are assumed to be the mouths of ancient wadis. Because the land is rising or because it now rains less than in earlier times and the wadis have stopped flowing, the creeks are silting up and the coastline is slowly being formed by tidal drift into a smoother line, the sabkha being reclaimed by wind-blown sand.

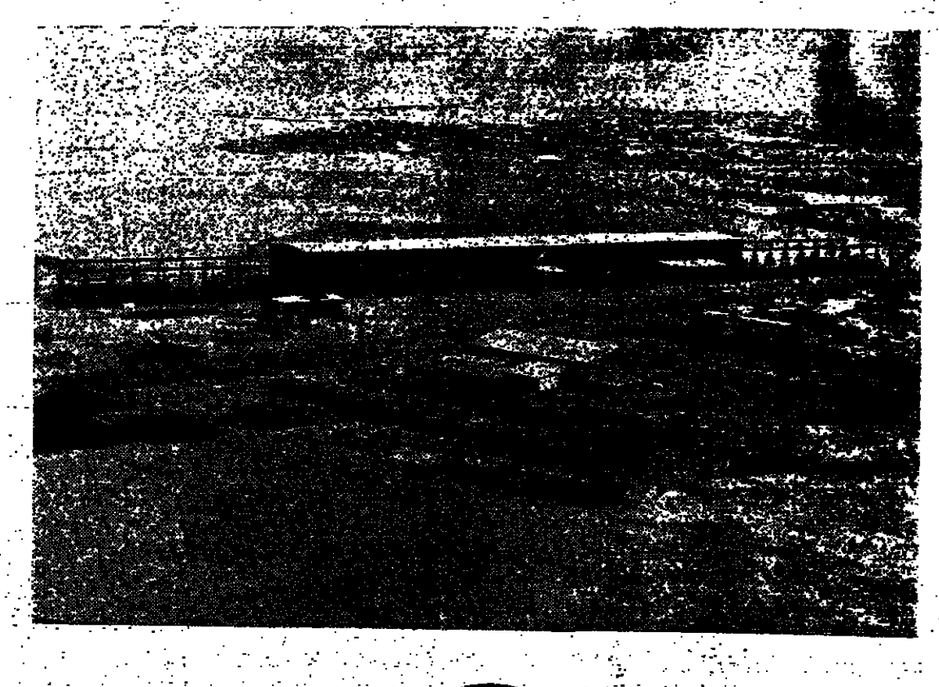
Stone implements are found in abundance. In an area which may have lost the knack of exploiting its metals, where perhaps the copper mines were lost and forgotten because of reasons yet unknown, the inhabitants may naturally have continued a tradition of stone working until recent times. This must be assumed for the time being from the tools which are found at Kasham. Nadir, a coastal village just south at Ras al Khaymah which Beatrice de Cardi suggested was abandoned in the seventeenth century.

However, the presence in addition of many genuine prehistoric sites has been established without doubt. Although no chronology is as yet available for the flint finds, some sites are very similar to those found by Holger Kapel in Qatar for which Kapel established datings of about 5000 BC.

Hellenistic finds have been made at Mileiha and at Umm al Qaywayn and recent newspaper reports indicate that Ras al Khaymah may have had some connexion with the kingdom of Sheba in Yemen, perhaps as a watering-place for ships plying the incense routes.

More recently, the Portuguese built forts at Julfar, Dibba, Fujayrah, Khorfakkan and Kalbah, and the remains of some of these still exist. A mound which has recently been discovered at Ras al Khaymah may be the remains of the shore fort which was captured by the Portuguese in 1633 under Nasir bin Murshid, after an attack lasting days.

So much lies to be discovered. A start has been made towards the formation of archaeological and historical society which will seek out sites, record them and pass its find on to the archaeological department of the Ministry of Information which will be a useful preparation for professional excavations later, once experienced visitors and the means of publishing are available. Thus, the society will make a valuable contribution to the discovery of the past of the Arab Emirates' past, and bring its people in touch with the predecessors who may well have been the citizens of the lost country of Magan.



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